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To the Right Honourable

PHILIP, *Lord* HARDWICKE;

Baron of *Hardwicke*, in the County of *Glouceſter*;

LORD HIGH CHANCELLOR of *Great Britain*;

AND

One of the LORDS of His Majeſty's moſt Honourable PRIVY COUNCIL.

610-28.3rdc

MY LORD,

THE good Reception theſe Memoirs, which I moſt humbly offer to your Lordſhip, have met with Abroad; and the Protection and Favour the *Author* has obtain'd at one of the Chief Proteſtant Courts of EUROPE; encourage me, tho' with the profoundeſt Submiſſion, to intreat your Lordſhip's favourable Acceptance of this *Tranſlation*.

 'Tis,

'Tis, my Lord, the only Homage I am capable of paying your Lordſhip, and the beſt Teſtimony I can give, with what Zeal and Pleaſure I join in the Congratulation of the Public for that illuſtrious Regard paid to your Lordſhip's Merit, and Their Wiſhes, by his SACRED MAJESTY, this Day in Council.

That your Lordſhip may very long enjoy a ſufficient Portion of Health, equal to the Abilities of your Great Mind, for ſupporting you under that vaſt Weight of Service which you have now taken upon you for your King and Country, is the hearty Prayer of all good ENGLISHMEN; and particularly of Him, MY LORD, who has the Honour to ſubſcribe

YOUR LORDSHIP'S

Moſt Devoted,

Moſt Obedient, and

Moſt Humble Servant.

PREFACE,

By the TRANSLATOR.

THE Author of theſe *Memoirs*, who is a Perſon of an honourable Family in *Pruſſia*, and confeſs'd by all that know him to be a Gentleman of extraordinary Talents, is one that may be truly ſaid to have ſeen the World; he having not only travell'd twice thro' the principal Parts of *Europe*, but by his Acquaintance with People of the firſt Rank, and a diligent Inquiry and nice Inſpection into Men and Things, attained to that Knowledge of Both, which is of ſuch Service and Entertainment to Mankind in the general, and ſo particularly neceſſary for All who attend to what is doing in high Life.

He has ſucceeded very happily in the right Narrative Stile; and the *French* Language, in which he wrote the following Letters, ſeems to be as natural to him as if it was his Mother-Tongue. But the Thing which has moſt contributed to the Demand for theſe Memoirs, is, the Multitude of Characters that the Baron has interſpers'd, not only of the Deceas'd, but even

of Perſons that are ſtill living, and diſtinguiſh'd by the exalted Spheres in which they move.

That every one of thoſe Characters is equally juſt, or that every Circumſtance relating to them is told with the utmoſt Exactneſs, is not to be imagin'd: For ſuppoſing the Author to have been ever ſo circumſpect and impartial, how was it poſſible for him to take the true Likeneſs of every one, in ſuch a Variety of Perſonages of both Sexes, and to be perfectly ſure of every Particular that he mentions; ſince he could not be Eye-Witneſs of every thing, and muſt be oblig'd for many to Information from other Perſons, of whom, tis no wonder if ſome were prejudic'd? But to do the Baron Juſtice, it muſt be allow'd, that he no where fails in that Reſpect and Decorum to Princes which are their due; and that he has not diſcover'd a predominant Paſſion for Satire: becauſe where he has painted in the ſtrongeſt Colours, and repreſented his Subjects in the moſt diſadvantageous Light, they were ſuch whoſe Follies or whoſe Vices were too flagrant and notorious to be either conceal'd or diſguis'd: And, conſidering the Groupe of Courtiers whom he has crouded into his Canvaſs, the Reader will rather be ſurpris'd to meet with ſo few Imperfections in his Characters, and ſo many excellent Qualities. By this means, his Memoirs have, upon the whole, done Honour to his Underſtanding, without offending his Conſcience, or hurting his Fortune;

tune; he being, at this very time, upon a handſome Eſtabliſhment at the Court of *Pruſſia*.

It cannot poſſibly eſcape the Obſervation of the Reader, that the Baron, when he wrote theſe Letters to his noble Friend, was a profeſs'd Member of the Church of *Rome*; but that nevertheleſs, he was not ſuch a Bigot to its Conſtitution, nor ſuch a Believer in the Legends of its Writers, or the pretended Miracles of its Saints, as to incur the Character of a blind and furious Zealot; it appearing on the contrary, from ſeveral Declarations of his Mind in the following Pages, that he did not want Charity either in his Nature or Principles for thoſe from whom he differ'd in religious Sentiments. Such a Catholic Spirit, aſſiſted by his good Senſe, made it, no doubt, much eaſier for him, after reflecting upon the Fopperies and Impoſtures which he had ſeen in that Church during his Travels, to abjure the *Romiſh* and to embrace the *Proteſtant* Religion, which he did accordingly with great Devotion laſt Summer, at *Berlin*; after which, his *Pruſſian* Majeſty was pleas'd to diſtinguiſh him with peculiar Marks of his Favour and Eſteem, by declaring him one of the Gentlemen of his Bedchamber, and Chief Cup-Bearer of his Court; and he has very lately given him a conſiderable Prebend.

To the new Edition of his Memoirs, from which the following Sheets are tranſlated, there's not only a great number of material Additions in the Body of the Work, as is obſerv'd by the Editor

tor of it, at *Amſterdam*, but ſeveral new Notes: In this Tranſlation, theſe Notes are likewiſe conſiderably augmented, for the ſake of continuing the Thread of the Hiſtory to the preſent Time, by the Notice taken of certain remarkable Alterations, or other curious Particulars that have happen'd to the Perſons or the Places mentioned, ſince 1734. when the ſaid Edition was publiſh'd.

One great Defect for which the foreign Editor has been very much blam'd, was the want of a Table to theſe Memoirs; which, if not abſolutely neceſſary in a Work of this kind, wherein ſo many Perſons and Facts are mentioned, cannot be neceſſary for any Book whatſoever that comes from the Preſs. To ſupply this Defect, the Tranſlator has added an Alphabetical Index to each of the two Volumes; which Indexes are the more copious, that the Reader might know where to turn in an Inſtant for ſome Account of the Characters, Conduct, or Familys of thoſe public Perſonages, whoſe Names ſo often occcur in the News-Papers.

THE

THE AUTHOR's PREFACE TO THE FIRST EDITION.

THERE are very few Books without a Preface; *and that there are ſo, is in a great meaſure owing to the Fancy of the* Bookſellers, *who think them to be abſolutely neceſſary, and too often judge of the merit of a Copy by the Flights of its Preface, and the inſinuating Tone of the* Author's *Voice in reading it. I had the misfortune to fall into the hands of one of theſe Bookſellers, ſo fond of Prefaces, whom nothing would ſerve but he muſt have one at the Head of my* Memoirs. *My telling him that I did not know what to put into a Preface, ſignify'd no more than if I had been talking to a Poſt; for he threatned to get a Preface compos'd by an Author who wrote for Wages. This ſtartled me, and I trembled for the fate of my Book, not doubting that a Preface written by a Man of Letters, who made it his profeſſion to compoſe ſuch marvellous Pieces, would altogether eclipſe the few Excellencies in this Work of mine. What, ſaid I to my ſelf, the Sale of my Book then muſt depend only on the Goodneſs of the Preface, which, when the Readers compare with the Book it ſelf, they will ſay, O! what a wonderful Man is the Author of the* Preface! *What a pitiful Writer, the Compiler of the* Memoirs! *No, ſaid I again to my ſelf, I am reſolv'd that the Preface and the Book ſhall run the ſame riſk; and ſince*

Chance

Chance has enter'd me an Author, I'll play out the whole part of one.

I am told that the Deſign of a Preface is to give the Publick an account, in the firſt place, of the Reaſons that have engag'd the Author to compoſe his Work; that then he is to inform the Publick, that 'tis in meer Complaiſance to his Friends, and becauſe there are mangled Copies of his Manuſcript abroad, that he has been determined to put it to the Preſs; and finally, that he is to conclude with a ſort of Petition, wherein he is to beg the Reader's Indulgence for his Productions. This, I have been aſſured, is the Plan of a Preface; let us now ſee how well I can execute it.

As to the firſt Article, viz. *what Motives I had to write, I ſincerely own that when I ſet Pen to Paper, I meant nothing more than to amuſe my ſelf. I was the fartheſt in the World from thinking that I ſhould one day be overtaken with the Temptation of ſetting up for an Author. I wrote Letters to a Friend of mine, purely to divert him with an Account of ſuch things as came in my way; the Minutes of which Letters I preſerved till I had inſenſibly formed a Volume of 'em; and having nothing elſe to do, I augmented and digeſted them in the manner that I now give them to the Publick. The truth is, that my Friends have not uſed the leaſt Importunity with me to commit my Manuſcript to the Preſs, nor was it poſſible for any ſpurious Copies of it to get abroad, becauſe no body ever ſaw it till I put it into the Hands of the Bookſeller.*

But I ſhall be aſk'd, what poſſeſs'd me to commence Author, and how came I to be ſo idle as to put my Name at the Head of a ſorry Book? I muſt anſwer again, that it was downright Indolence. As to my Name, it would have been very difficult to have concealed it from Perſons to whom I have the greateſt Obligations. I ſhould have been ſuſpected to have been the Author of theſe Memoirs at certain Courts, for which I have a Reſpect both by Inclination and Duty; and perhaps,

if

if I had left this Copy to the wide World, as ſome do thoſe Foundlings which they are aſham'd to own, ſuch Paſſages might have been foiſted into it, as wou'd have been father'd upon me, in ſpite of all Proteſtations of my Innocence.

As to the Book itſelf, I am apt to think there is nothing in it that any Perſon whatſoever ought to take offence at. When I ſpeak of Sovereign Princes, tis with the Reverence due to the Lord's Anointed; *and I alſo endeavour to honour them in their Miniſters, being taught by my Religion that I ought to honour God in his Saints. I have done my utmoſt to paint the true Characters of People in Place, and can ſafely ſay, that my Authorities are not meer hear-ſays or ſcraps out of News-Papers; for, thanks to God, my Birth and Fortune have put me in a capacity to ſee, hear, and judge for my ſelf.*

It will be thought perhaps, that when I ſpeak of Nations in general, I judge too raſhly. It may be ſo; this being an Article eſpecially in which all Men do not think alike. The French *have a quite different Idea of the* Germans *from what the* Engliſh *have, and the* Engliſh *do not paſs the ſame Verdict on the* French *as the* Swedes *do. 'Tis the ſame in private Life. Every one makes his own Condition the Standard of his Judgment. The Man of Quality, the Citizen, the Soldier, the Merchant, have all different Ideas. The Traveller judges of the Nation where he is, by the Company he keeps. A* Frenchman *who in* Germany *converſes with none but thoſe of the ſecond Claſs, will ſay that the* Germans *are honeſt People, but clowniſh; whereas another, who keeps company with Perſons of Quality, or thoſe in Offices, will agree, that the* Germans *are more polite than they have been painted by certain* French *Writers, who have been tranſplanted to* Germany *either by their Diſtreſſes, or by meer Chance. So, a* German, *who, when he is at* Paris, *ſees no better Company than the Marchioneſſes of the*

Suburb

Suburb of St. Germain, *imagines that all the Women both at Court and in the City are like them. In fine, a Foreigner who takes up his Reſidence in the City of* London, *will entertain a different Idea of the* Engliſh *from what another ſhall do who lodges at* St. James's *end of the Town. They are, as one may ſay, ſo many different Nations in one and the ſame State, which ſtand in little relation to one another, and ſometimes attribute Virtues and Vices to each other without due Conſideration. A Foreigner therefore can form a ſolid Judgment of none but thoſe with whom he is converſant; and if he has the good luck to pitch his Tent well, he entertains an advantageous Opinion of the Nation in general. Let Foreigners, when they return home, after having kept ſuch various ſorts of Company, ſit down to draw the Characters of the Nations they have ſeen, I do but think what a ſtrange difference wou'd appear in their Deſcriptions! The Judgment therefore which I make of People, is founded upon the Company I kept, and upon what I heard from ſuch Inhabitants of the Country as appear'd to me to be altogether unprejudiced, and were pleaſed to honour me with their Information. I do not ſay but, after all, I may have been miſtaken; for I do not pretend to have painted things in any other light than as they appear'd to me. If, nevertheleſs, any particular Perſon thinks himſelf particularly intended when I ſpeak of the Inhabitants of any Province or Town in general, I beg him to remember, that I confeſs in my Memoirs there are worthy People in all parts of the World, and 'tis not my fault if his Conſcience does not permit him to rank himſelf in that number.*

No doubt I ſhall be reproach'd for relating too many Trifles, and paſſing too lightly over things of greater Importance. To ſpeak freely again, I will make no difficulty to own, that, if when I began theſe Memoirs, I had ever thought of printing them, the deſire of promoting their Sale might perhaps have put me upon inſerting

ſerting a great many Nothings which I omitted, as not thinking it worth while to charge my Memory with 'em. The far greateſt part of what the World reads is Trifles, and a Hiſtory will make its fortune not by the inſtructive Facts that are in it, but by the Romantic Turn the Author gives it. Beſides, I am not ſo vain as to write with a deſign of Inſtructing; for what could I relate in my Travels which others have not done before me in better Terms? To talk of Learned Men, to make a Catalogue of Books and MSS. that are to be met with in Libraries, to ranſack the Cabinet of the Curious, to publiſh Inſcriptions, to treat of antique Medals, to affirm that I have ſeen an Otho *of Braſs which is known to be but of Silver, what a Poſſe of Men of Learning wou'd riſe up againſt me! Whereas, now I fear nothing; the Learned don't read Trifles, or if they do, they ſcorn to criticiſe them. I ſhall to them remain unknown, or at leaſt, my Meanneſs will be my Protection againſt their Indignation.*

I would fain be as ſecure againſt the Criticiſm of thoſe, who reading for the ſake of their Amuſement, require an exact, elegant Stile in Trifles, that is, adorn'd with the Flowers and Garlands of Rhetorick. But how ſhall I gain their Indulgence? If I own to them that I could do no better, they will ſay to me, and juſtly enough, Alas! then what made you write? *To which I ſhall anſwer, as I ſaid before, that it was meerly for want of ſomething elſe to do. If they will but forgive me this time, I aſſure them that I not only will never relapſe into the ſame error, but that I ſhall not be ſorry if they diſdain to take Notice of my Book: And if the reading of theſe Memoirs inclines them to ſleep, I ſhall think my ſelf very well rewarded for having contributed to their Repoſe.*

After all, I am more particularly obliged to aſk pardon of the French *than any other Nation: 'Tis in their Language I have preſumed to write, and they are my proper Judges. Such is their Politeneſs and their*

Readineſs

Readineſs to aſſiſt Foreigners, that I doubt not of Mercy. And in return, I promiſe them, that if a Frenchman *ever vouchſafes to write in the* German *Language, I will forgive him any Errors that he may commit.*

ADVERTISEMENT by the EDITOR.

N. B. "THESE Memoirs went off ſo quick, "that before they had been out ſcarce "ſix Months, the *French* Bookſeller was oblig'd to "prepare for this *Second Edition*; to which, there "are conſiderable Additions both in the Body of "the Work and in the Notes, of curious and inte-"reſting Facts and Characters, and the principal "Alterations that have happen'd at the ſeveral "Courts, ſince the firſt Edition.

"There is added in particular, a very circum-"ſtantial Account of the preſent Elector of *Saxony*'s "Family, his Miniſters, and Officers; and in ſhort, "of the Chief Perſons of both Sexes belonging to "his Court and Houſhold. This is prefix'd in the "Original, at the Head of the Memoirs; but the "Tranſlator thought it more regular as well as more "conſiſtent with the Method obſerv'd every where "elſe by the Author, to place it at the End of his "Deſcription of the City of *Dreſden*. The Baron "has dedicated that Account to the preſent Elector "(*Auguſtus*, King of *Poland*) and introduc'd it with "the following Preface.

PRE-

PREFACE

To the SECOND EDITION.

THE PRESENT STATE OF THE COURT OF SAXONY, *which is added to this Edition, has no need of a Preface to recommend it, the very Title ſhewing that 'tis what concerns every* Saxon *eſpecially to be acquainted with.*

All Subjects have a deſire to know ſomething of their Sovereign; and private Men in every State have this Curioſity, with reſpect to their Miniſters and Courtiers. Theſe are the Characters which I have ventured to draw, tho' I own, that I don't think I have always hit the Life, for want of that Penetration and Delicacy of Imagination which Nature, to me a Step-Mother, has deny'd me; and alſo becauſe it would have been neceſſary for me to have ſtay'd longer than I did at Dreſden. *Three Months Reſidence at ſo great a Court, are hardly ſufficient to make a Man acquainted with it, were his Fund of Knowledge even as deep as mine is ſhallow. Then what a Preſumption would it be for me to think I have attained to it!*

I muſt not diſſemble, that this Book with all its Imperfections, has coſt me more trouble in compoſing than one much larger would have done upon a Subject that had been more familiar to me. There was a neceſſity for me to make Inquiry into many Particulars, and to get ſome of my Information from a private hand. I own my Obligation to the Civility of M. Konig, *the Counſellor of the Court, for the Intelligence I wanted*

relating to ſome of the Court-Nobility. If I had been ſo happy as to have found out but one or two Perſons more as active for me as he was, my Work would have been more correct and more extenſive. Such as it is, I intreat the Reader to accept it, and to forgive any Errors in it, in conſideration that I am the firſt who has ventured to treat of ſuch a Subject. I own, there is a certain degree of Raſhneſs in the Undertaking, but the noble Motive that has induc'd me to it, ſeems to plead for my excuſe.

All Saxony *knows in general, that 'tis govern'd by a Sovereign, gracious, and vigilant to render it happy. It were needleſs to ſet the King's Virtues and Actions before their Eyes, which the People already admire, and pray for him. But as this Great Prince does not want thoſe who envy his Glory, they are the Perſons whom I have choſe to make aſham'd of themſelves; and have endeavoured, if poſſible, to reclaim others whom a fatal blindneſs keeps at a diſtance from his Majeſty's Perſon*.*

All that ever had the honour of approaching Auguſtus III. *will agree with me that he adorns that Throne, upon which a reſpectful Nation has plac'd him; and that whatever I have ſaid of this Monarch is ſhort of what might be mention'd. How is it poſſible to give the true Portraiture of a King born without Vice, by Principle virtuous, and religiouſly good? To admire him in Silence is the only way to pleaſe him, which I know too well, not to conform to it; and therefore I have not preſum'd to expatiate ſo far in his Praiſe as the Sublimity of the Subject demands.*

The ſame Averſion of the Queen to Praiſe, has confin'd me within the ſame bounds. How many Virtues have not I been forc'd to ſmother? What Thoughts have

* The Reader will pleaſe to obſerve, that this Preface was written during the late Diſtractions in *Poland*, before the Male-content Lords had reconcil'd themſelves to their Allegiance to their lawful Sovereign.

have not I ſacrific'd, leſt I ſhould offend the noble Modeſty of that Auguſt Princeſs, who with a Simplicity attending her Grandeur, makes her Glory to conſiſt in being humble in the midſt of Honours?

I believe no body will diſpute the Truth of what I have advanc'd relating to the PRINCE ROYAL *and* ELECTORAL, *the* PRINCES HIS BROTHERS, *and the* PRINCESSES HIS SISTERS. *The hopes I have raiſed of what may be expected from* THEIR ROYAL HIGHNESSES, *will ſurely be confirm'd by Time, and by all thoſe who have acceſs to them.*

The Actions of the Duke John-Adolphus *of* Saxe-Weiſſenfels *are ſo well eſtabliſh'd that I have not thought fit to anticipate Hiſtory, by which they are to be conſecrated: And for the ſame reaſon, I have but juſt touch'd upon the amiable Qualities of his Mind, which are rever'd both by the Court and the Army.*

As to the Princeſs of Saxe-Weiſſenfels, *I frankly own, that as I had not the honour of paying my Court to her, what I have ſaid of her Virtues has no other Authority than the Voice of the Publick, which can never ſpeak enough in her Praiſe.*

I have been more copious in treating of the Miniſters; and what I have ſaid of them is ſo true, that they who know them not may thereby form a juſt Idea of what they are.

I have taken as much notice of the principal Lords and the moſt diſtinguiſh'd Ladies of the Court as the little time I had for this Work, and the Limits to which I was confin'd, would permit. I flatter my ſelf they will forgive the Freedom with which I uſe them; and hope I have preſerv'd a Decency in my Language which will ſecure me from Reproach.

ERRATA in VOL. I.

PAGE 4, lin. 10. for *has* read *had*; and l. 7. from the bottom, for *Crant*, r. *Craut*.

To *Fredericſtadt*, in *Berlin*, p. 20. there ſhould have been this Addition:

'Since the Original was publiſh'd this Ward has been lengthen'd two thirds. There is one Street ſo long, that in this reſpect there are few that equal it: 'tis as ſtrait as a Line; and terminates in an Oval, ſurrounded with very fine Houſes. A new Ward is alſo erected at the End of that call'd the New Town; from whence it ranges behind *Fredericſtadt*. Here moſt of the chief Nobility are building Hotels or Palaces, rather than Houſes. In a word, if the Number of the Inhabitants of *Berlin* was proportionable to that of the Houſes, it would be the fineſt, and the moſt flouriſhing Town in all Germany.

This ſhould have been added to the Note in p. 53.

'But this Pretext, how plauſible ſoever in favour of the Papiſts, is not at all concluſive againſt the *Calviniſts* at *Hamburgh*, who ſurely might be as ſafely tolerated as the Jews.

In p. 64. l. 7. from the bottom, for *Great Cup-bearer*, r. *Captain of the Caſtle of* Hanover.

To the Character of M. *de Montenffel* in p. 135. add this Note:

'He was created a Count of the Empire (not by the King of *Poland*, but) by the Emperor. As he is a Lover of the Belles Lettres, in the late War he wrote and publiſh'd ſeveral ſolid Pieces, which were well penn'd.

P. 199. lin. 17. after *Bareith* read *and*.
P. 255. lin. 8. from the bottom, for *Nobility* r. *Gentry*.
P. 263. l. 15. for *Lewis* XIV. r. XV.
P. 265. l. 21. and 266. lin. ult. for *Freiſing* r. *Preiſing*.

VOL. II.

In the Running-Title of p. 147. for *Turin* r. *Genoa*.
P. 177. l. 16. for *Comedians* r. *Actreſſes*.
P. 251. l. 15. for *in* r. *on*.
P. 351. l. 11. after *is* r. *at*.
P. 440. l. 22. for *Pillar* r. *Pillow*.

MEMOIRS
OF THE
Baron de POLLNITZ.
In SEVERAL LETTERS to Mr. *L. C. D. S.*

LETTER I.

SIR, *Berlin, June* 6, 1729.

FROM *Breſlaw* to *Berlin* 'tis 40 *German* Miles of very even Country, well peopled and cultivated. There are I know not how many little Towns in the Road, not worth mentioning.

The firſt Place of any Importance is CROSSEN. This City is the Capital of the Dutchy from whence it has its Name, which formerly made a Part of *Sileſia*, but is now annex'd to the Electorate of *Brandenbourg*. There's a Bridge at *Croſſen*, by which we paſs the River *Oder*, defended by Fortifications. The Town is ſituate in a pleaſant fruitful Country. The Houſes, which are all of Brick, are uniform, and the Streets as ſtrait as a Line. The chief of them

terminate in a great Square in the middle of the Town, where there is a Statue of the King of *Pruſſia*. The River *Oder* is of great advantage to the Commerce of *Croſſen*, which carries on a conſiderable Trade in Linnen-Cloth and Earthen Ware.

Going out of *Croſſen*, we paſs this River by a Bridge, as we do a ſecond time over to FRANCFORT, a conſiderable City of the Marquiſate of *Brandenbourg*, famous for its Fairs, and its Univerſity. This City has ſtood the Shock of various Revolutions. It was put under the Ban of the Empire by the Emperor *Charles* IV. for having diſobey'd his Orders; and the Inhabitants to make him eaſy were forc'd to pay him down 12000 Marks of Silver, which at that time was an immenſe Sum. In 1631 the *Swedes* beſieg'd and took it by Storm, when they put all the Inhabitants to the Sword in repriſal for the Maſſacre of 2000 *Swedes*, whom the Emperor's General Count *Tilly* had inhumanly put to death in the City of *Brandenbourg*. By the Peace of *Munſter*, or *Weſtphalia*, which eſtabliſh'd the Tranquility of the Empire, *Francfort* was reſtor'd to the Elector of *Brandenbourg* its lawful Sovereign.

Here is a Univerſity founded by *Joachim* I. (Margrave of *Brandenbourg*) in 1506, which is very much frequented by the *Sileſians*, and by the *Hungarian* Proteſtants.

There are two Fairs a Year at *Francfort*, which render it a trading City, and its Commerce conſiſts in Linnen Cloth, and Fells.

'Tis ten Miles from *Francfort* to *Berlin*, and a flat ſandy Country. The Road leads thro' *Munchenbourg*, a little Town chiefly inhabited by the Deſcendants of *French* Men, who left their Country upon the Revocation of the Edict of *Nantes*.

The nearer one comes to the Capital of *Brandenbourg*, the more ſandy is the Soil, yet the Country produces plenty of Corn and Fruits.

BERLIN is the common Reſidence of the King of *Pruſſia*, and one of the largeſt, beſt built, and beſt govern'd Cities in all *Germany*. The Streets are ſpacious, ſtrait, neat and well pav'd. The Situation is advantagious; for tho' it lies in a very ſandy Soil, yet 'tis encompaſs'd with agreeable Gardens producing Fruits and excellent Pulſe, and its Commerce is much improv'd by the River *Spree*, which paſſes thro' the City, and has a Communication with the *Havel*, the *Oder*, and the *Elbe*.

The *French*, who for the ſake of Religion became Refugees, have contributed in an extraordinary manner to the Embelliſhment and Aggrandiſement of *Berlin*, by the eſtabliſhing of all ſorts of Manufactures, and the introducing of Arts into it; and it may be ſaid of them, that they have omitted nothing to teſtify their Gratitude to the Elector *Frederic William* and his Poſterity, for the generous Reception which he gave them in his Dominions.

Berlin is divided into five Wards excluſive of the Suburbs, which are very extenſive. I will run thro' theſe Wards in the Order of their Situation: But before I do this, I propoſe to ſhew you what is moſt remarkable in the Suburbs; where the Houſes are generally of Timber, but ſo well plaiſter'd that they ſeem to be of Stone; and the Streets are broad, lightſome and ſtrait.

In the Suburb of *Spandau* the Queen has a delightful Houſe and Gardens. The Houſe is called *Monbijou*; a very proper Name for it, becauſe 'tis really a Jewel. 'Tis a Pavilion, the Apartments of which are laid out with Art, and furniſh'd with great Judgment and Elegance. The Gardens are charming, and lie finely open to the River. This Houſe was built by the Counteſs de *Wartemberg*, Wife to the Prime Miniſter of King *Frederic* I. As her Huſband's Power and Favour were at that time ſo great, that he did whatever he pleas'd, all the

King's Workmen and Architects us'd the utmoſt Diligence to ſerve her well. But ſhe did not enjoy this fine Houſe long; for it was ſcarce compleated when the King removed the Count from all his Employments, and baniſh'd him to *Francfort* on the *Maine*. However, he ſettled a Penſion upon him and his Lady of 24000 Crowns, and the Counteſs by way of Acknowledgement gave the King this Houſe, which of all the immenſe Treaſure that ſhe has amaſs'd, was the only Piece that ſhe cou'd not carry with her. The King gave this Houſe to the Princeſs Royal now Queen, who has added great Embelliſhments to it, and brought it to its preſent State of Perfection.

In the Suburb of *Stralau* is the Houſe and Gardens of *Belvedere*, belonging to the King. *Rollé* Superintendant of the Finances to the Elector *Frederic William*, caus'd this Garden to be made, in which he laid out conſiderable Sums; and as this Miniſter was at other very great Expences, it ſo impair'd his Fortune, that he was oblig'd to throw up all and retir'd to *Holland*; and being very much in debt to the Elector, his Garden was forfeited to that Prince, who made a Preſent of it to M. *de Fuchs*, one of his Miniſters. King *Frederic* I. purchas'd it of the latter, and after having embelliſhed it, made a Preſent of it to the Queen his third Wife; but that Princeſs's ill ſtate of Health obliging her to retire to *Mecklembourg* her Native Country, *Belvedere* became neglected.

Near this Royal Houſe is the magnificent Gardens of *Crant*, who from a Boy behind the Counter rais'd himſelf by his Induſtry to the Poſt of Paymaſter General of the Army, and at length to that of Miniſter of State. He was to have been call'd to account in his laſt ſtage of Life, but he cunningly diverted that Storm by feigning himſelf Lunatic; and dying, he left an immenſe Eſtate, part of which fell

fell to the King by way of Reſtitution, and the reſt to his Nephew, who makes a grand Figure at *Paris*.

I enter'd *Berlin* thro' that call'd the Gate *Royale*, which has had that Name ever ſince the Day that *Frederic* I. made his Entry there, after his Coronation at *Koningsberg* in *Pruſſia*. This Gate is defended by a Half-Moon, and two Baſtions fac'd with Brick, and fronts that call'd the Street *Royale*; one of the longeſt and moſt frequented in all the City. There are very fine Houſes in it, particularly that of M. *de Catſch*, a Miniſter of State, that of *Grumkau*, and the Poſt-Houſe, which laſt Building was begun by order of the late King, for his Favourite the Count *de Wartemberg*, who was hereditary Poſt-Maſter.

Thro' the Street *Royale* there run fine, ſpacious and beautiful Streets. The firſt is call'd *la Rue du Cloitre*, in which we ſee the Royal Manufactory. *Frederic* I. who bought it of the Heirs of the Marſhal *de Flemming*, eſtabliſhed an Academy of Nobles there; ſo that, on the Payment of three hundred Crowns, they had Lodging, Proviſion, and Inſtruction in every thing that it's natural a Man of Quality ſhou'd know. This Eſtabliſhment exiſted a few Years, but ſunk at laſt meerly thro' the Neglect of Perſons whoſe Buſineſs 'twas to take care of it. The preſent King has chang'd this Fabrick into a Workhouſe, and allowed Lodgings in it for ſeveral Woollen Manufacturers.

Adjoining to the Royal Manufactory, there are publick Warehouſes, which were eſtabliſhed and built by the late King; and being deſtroyed by Fire, the preſent King caus'd them to be rebuilt. Oppoſite to the Warehouſes ſtands the Houſe of M. *de Creutz*, Miniſter of State; which has fine Apartments, and is very neatly furniſh'd. Higher in the ſame Street there's the Houſe of M. *Duvaine*,

a *French* Man by Birth, and Lieutenant-General of his *Pruſſian* Majeſty's Forces: And contiguous to his Houſe, which makes a fine Appearance, is the *Calviniſts* new Church, a Structure rais'd after the Model of *Grunberg*, an Architect who had before acquired a Reputation, which did not ſuffer by his Contrivance of this great Fabrick: The Front of it is magnificent, but the inſide plain, as are all the Churches of the *Calviniſts*, which you know don't admit of Images. The ſubterranean Places or Catacombs, for interring thoſe that worſhip here, are worth ſeeing. Several Perſons have been interr'd there of great Note, particularly *Caſimir de Colbe*, Count *de Wartemberg*, Prime Miniſter, Great Chamberlain, Maſter of the Horſe, Poſt-Maſter General, Protector of all the Academies in the Dominions of the King of *Pruſſia*, and Knight of the Order of the Black Eagle. Being baniſh'd in 1711, to *Francfort* upon the *Maine*, where he died the Year following, he order'd that his Corpſe ſhou'd be carry'd to *Berlin*; and his Will was accordingly fulfill'd. He was ſo dear to King *Frederic* I. that he was very loth to part with him; but was, as it were, compell'd to it by a Cabal, who oppos'd his Miniſterial Authority; tho' he was provok'd at the Inſolence of *Wartemberg*'s Wife, and at his mean Submiſſion to her. The King made an Offer to him afterwards, by the Count *Chriſtophle de Dohna*, (who was then his Ambaſſador at *Francfort*, for the Election of the Emperor,) to come and reſume his Employments, on condition that he wou'd not bring his Wife with him; but *Wartemberg* refus'd, ſaying, he was engag'd in honour not to forſake her. Perhaps he was very glad of this Excuſe for not returning, becauſe he had once experienc'd the Viciſſitude of Fortune, and knew well that he had been too powerful a Man not to be hated. King *Frederic* I. who was deſirous

ſirous to ſee his Funeral paſs by, cou'd not refrain Tears; which undoubtedly was the greateſt Character that he cou'd give of his Miniſter.

Next to the Count *de Wartemberg*'s Tomb, is that of *Henrietta de Pollnitz*, Wife to *Francis* Count *de Dubamel*, the *Venetians* Generaliſſimo. Her Huſband dying in the *Morea*, this Lady return'd to *Venice*, propoſing to go and end her Days at *Berlin*, where ſhe was born; but while ſhe was performing her Quarantain ſhe died, after deſiring her Body to be carry'd to *Berlin*; which was accordingly done by two of her Nephews, and one of her Nieces, whom ſhe made her Heirs. There is alſo the Tomb of the Count *de Denhoff*, Lieutenant-General of the King's Armies, Knight of his Order of the Black Eagle, Miniſter of State, Governour of *Memel*, and Ambaſſador at the Treaty of *Utrecht*, where he acquired a high Reputation among the foreign Miniſters. The Marſhal *de Villars*, who had known him at *Vienna*, when he the Marſhal reſided there in the quality of Miniſter, to take care of the Affairs of *France*, ſaid to me one day, ſpeaking of the Count *de Denhoff*, that the King of *Pruſſia* cou'd not do enough to reward the Count's great Merit. *If he wou'd have been rul'd by me*, added he, *he wou'd have been in the Service of the King my Maſter.*

The ſecond Street that croſſes the Street *Royale*, is the *Jews* Street, which runs into the Square *Molcke-Marck*; where the Hotel *de Schwerin* makes a fine Appearance. Within a few Houſes lower down, there's a Manufactory of Gold and Silver Lace, which one *Schindler* has eſtabliſhed with good ſucceſs: This Houſe belong'd to the Wife of M. *de Wenſen*, Marſhal of the Court to King *Frederic* I. but ſhe reſign'd it as part of Payment of a Fine, to which her Huſband had been condemn'd by the Count *de Wartemberg*, then prime Miniſter;

who confin'd M. *Wenſen* in *Cuſtrin* Caſtle, becauſe he had preſum'd to repreſent to the King that the Table of the prime Miniſter, which was ſerved by his Majeſty's Cooks and Butlers, was more expenſive than his Majeſty's own Table. *Wenſen* however, upon the Payment of this Fine, obtain'd his Liberty, and was baniſh'd to his Lands in the Dutchy of *Zell*.

In the middle of *Molcke-Marck* is the Statue of *Frederic* I. Father to the preſent King, with a Crown on his Head, and a royal Mantle on his Shoulders. The Statue was caſt by order of *Frederic* I. himſelf, who intended to have it plac'd in the Court of the Arſenal; but dying before it cou'd be brought about, the King his Son caus'd it to be ſet up where it now ſtands, which is indeed a much better Place for it.

The *Spandau* Street, which is the third that croſſes the Street *Royale*, contains the Town-Houſe, and other fine Buildings: The Street *St. Eſprit* is altogether as beautiful, as is the Kay, which fronts the Caſtle or Palace of the King. Upon this Kay we ſee the Houſe of the Baron *de Verneſobre*, whoſe Anceſtors being *French* Proteſtant Merchants, ſettled at *Koningſberg* in *Pruſſia*. He was in *France* at the time of the *Miſſiſſippy* Plague, which, tho' ſo fatal to others, prov'd ſo fortunate to him that he gain'd ſeveral Millions of Livres, with which he came and ſet up at *Berlin*, where he has taken to building, having purchas'd the Eſtate of *Hohenſihn* from Monſieur *de Borſtel*, one of the beſt Gentlemen of the Country, procur'd himſelf the Title of Counſellor of State, and cuts a Figure now among Perſons of Quality.

The Churches of St. *Mary*, St. *Nicholas*, and that belonging to the Garriſon, are as magnificent as any of the Proteſtant Churches. St. *Mary*'s has a beautiful Spire. When *Frederic* I. made his royal Entry here, at his return from his Coronation, a Man aſcended to the Globe of this Spire, and ſa-

luted

luted the new King by flouriſhing a pair of Colours. The Church of the Garriſon was founded by the late King, but was very much damag'd ſome Years ago by the blowing up of a Magazine of Gun-Powder in the Neighbourhood, juſt as they were removing it to a ſafer Place. King *Frederic William* has caus'd it to be rebuilt with more Magnificence than before. The Organs are very fine, and the Galleries very well contriv'd.

That Ward of *Berlin* which I have now run through, is ſeparated from that of *Coln* or *Cologne* by the River *Spree*, over which there are four Bridges, whereof there is one of Stone, call'd the *Pont-neuf*. *Frederic* I. in imitation of the *Pont-neuf* at *Paris*, famous for the Statue of *Henry* IV. cauſed the Equeſtrian Statue of his Father, the Elector *Frederic William*, to be erected upon this Bridge, with very great Pomp and Splendor; for no Prince in *Germany* ſtrove more than he did to copy *Lewis* XIV. in Magnificence and every thing elſe. When this Statue was dedicated, the Count *de Lottum*, who was then Grand Marſhal of the Court, accompanied by moſt of the Courtiers on horſeback, and by the City Companies, aſſiſted at the Ceremony, which was performed with an *Apparatus*, till then unknown in *Germany* upon the like Occaſions; but had been practiſed at *Paris*, when the Statue of *Lewis le Grand* was erected in that City.

This entire Monument was deſign'd by one *Jacobi*, who after ſeveral Years Labour and conſtant Application to it, has brought it to its preſent State. This ſkilful Operator has repreſented the Elector in a *Roman* Dreſs, and in an heroick Stature; that is to ſay, above the natural Size. The Statue is placed on a magnificent Pedeſtal of white Marble. At the four Corners of the Baſe, are placed as many Slaves in Braſs, who ſeem as if they were chain'd to it.

When

When one has paſs'd the Bridge, the King's Palace offers itſelf to view; a great and ſtately Fabric, which *Frederic* I. began in the Year 1699, and a worthy Monument of that Prince's Magnificence, who was of Opinion, that of all the Sums expended by Sovereigns, thoſe which they lay out in Buildings are leaſt liable to Cenſure. And indeed Magnificence is well beſtowed, and even Profuſion ſeems juſtifiable in Architecture, becauſe grand Edifices are the principal Ornament of any State.

The Palace has been the Workmanſhip of ſeveral Architects; the Name of the firſt was *Schluter*, but he not giving Satisfaction was diſmiſs'd, and went into the Service of the Czar *Peter Alexiowitz*. Whatever he did is extremely incumber'd with Ornaments which have not a due Proportion. His Succeſſor was *Eoſander*, a *Swede*, who is a Lieutenant-General in the Service of the King of *Poland*: He was oblig'd in ſome meaſure to purſue what *Schluter* had begun; ſo that if he has not come off well every where, he has at leaſt that for his Excuſe. The third was *Bot*, a *Frenchman*, and now Geaneral Officer in *Poland*; who without diſpute was a much better Artiſt than the others. Every thing that he has done is more ſimple, yet more grand, noble, and complete.

Theſe three Architects having gone upon different Plans, you will eaſily imagine that the Fronts are not perfectly regular; yet for all this, had the Palace been finiſh'd according to the Models approv'd of by the late King, it wou'd have been inferior to no Edifice for Grandure and Magnificence, except the *Louvre* of *Paris*. King *Frederic William* does not think fit to carry on this Building, but leaves that Honour to his Son, the Prince Royal.

As to giving you all the Particulars of this vaſt Palace, you will be ſo good as to excuſe me: Be ſa-

ſatisfied if I only tell you, that it conſiſts of four Stories: The Apartments are large, have fine Cielings, and are royally furniſh'd. In no part of the World did I ever ſee ſuch a prodigious quantity of Plate, Tables, Stands, Luſtres, Chandeliers, Screens, Looking-Glaſs Frames, Couches, Arm-Chairs, all of Silver. The late King left Plate to the value of two Millions eight hundred thouſand Crowns, not reckoning the Faſhion. In that call'd the Knights Hall, there's a Beaufet which takes up one intire ſide of the Room, where there are Ciſterns and Baſons Silver gilt, of an extraordinary Size.

The Furniture of the grand Apartment is very rich; there's a fine Gallery adorn'd with Pictures, the Cieling of which was painted by one *Peine*, a *Frenchman*, who in divers Compartments has ſkilfully repreſented the principal Actions of King *Frederic* I. At the end of this Gallery there's a Saloon, which was formerly magnificent to the laſt degree, being wainſcotted, if I may ſo call it, with Amber: But the late Czar coming to *Berlin* in his return from *Holland* and *France*, and not a little admiring this Furniture, which was the only thing of its kind, the King made him a Preſent of it: ſo that what had been amaſs'd with great Care and Coſt by ſeveral Electors, fell in one Day into the hands of a Nation, which, no longer ago than the beginning of the preſent Century, was reckon'd Barbarian.

The Palace had fine Gardens belonging to it before they were deſtroy'd, and converted into a Place of Arms, and a Parade for the Guards.

Hard by the Palace are the King's Stables, a very grand Building, facing the great Street. The Architecture without is *Gothic*, but the inſide is more magnificent; the Stables are broad and ſpacious,

very

very lofty, and very lightſome: The Mangers are of Stone, and the Pillars which mark the Stands for the Horſes, are of Iron, and adorn'd with the King's Cypher, gilt: Over the Mangers are ſeveral great Pictures of the fineſt Horſes that ever came out of his Majeſty's Studs. The Backſide of the Stables projects towards the River *Spree*, to which they can lead the Horſes by a Stair-Caſe without Steps, built in form of a Horſe-Shoe.

The Main Body of the Houſe contains grand Lodgings for the Maſter of the Horſe, and the Officers under him. Over the Stables are great Rooms where they keep a deal of fine Furniture, both for the Horſe and Mule; magnificent Sleds, with convenient Harneſs, adorn'd with Bells of Silver, or Silver gilt; a great number of fine Arms; the rich Accoutrements of the Horſe which ſerv'd *Frederic* I. on the Day of his publick Entry; all the Ornaments of the Bridle, the Breaſt-Leather, and Crupper, as well as the Bits and Stirrups, being of Gold, adorn'd with Brilliants.

Over the Riding-Houſe is the great Theatre, where, in the late King's time, Interludes and Comedies us'd to be acted before the whole Court; but the Opera of *Roxana* and *Alexander* was the laſt that was acted on it. It was play'd in 1708, upon the Marriage of King *Frederic* I. with *Sophia* of *Mecklemberg*. In 1706, an Interlude was acted there, on account of the Arrival of the Princeſs Royal, now Queen; intitled, *Beauty triumphing over Heroes*; at which the Markgraves *Frederic-Albert* and *Chriſtian-Lewis*, the late King's Brothers, danc'd, with all the young Courtiers.

As we go farther down the great Street, we come to the Fiſh Market, where is the Hotel of the City of *Cologne*, and *Dorffling*'s Hotel occupied by the Count de *Finck*. This Family is oblig'd for it's Riſe to the Marſhal *Dorffling*, who from an Apprentice

tice to a Taylor rais'd himſelf by his Valour and Merit to the higheſt Poſts in the Army. The Story goes, that when he had ſerv'd his Apprenticeſhip at *Tangermunde*, having a mind to go to *Berlin*, he came to a part of the Country where he cou'd not proceed without croſſing the *Elbe*, but not having wherewithal to pay his Paſſage, the Ferry-Men refus'd to carry him over; which ſo vex'd him, that he threw his Knapſack into the River in a Pet, curs'd the Trade of a Taylor, and went back to *Tangermunde*, where he liſted himſelf a Soldier. There being a War at that time all over *Germany*, it was no difficult matter for the young Warrior to find an Opportunity to ſhew his Courage; and he ſignaliz'd it in ſuch a manner, that his Officers, who were all in love with him, ſtrove to advance him, and therefore made him known to the Elector *Frederic William*. This Prince who lov'd, rewarded, and was a good Judge of Valour, did not depend upon what Fame reported of him; but in order to ſee his Officers and Soldiers fight with his own Eyes, conducted them himſelf to the Enemy, and very ſoon took notice of *Dorffling*. He ſaw him at every part of the Field where there was Honour to be won: He ſaw he was a ſenſible induſtrious Fellow, that he hated Parties and Cabals, and that he had that *Germanic* Probity which was the diſtinguiſh'd Virtue of our Forefathers, but which we now content our ſelves with admiring. The Elector obſerving ſuch a Stock of Virtue in *Dorffling*, thought him deſerving of his Favour, advanc'd him to the tip-top Employments, and made him very rich. Envy, which is as old as the World itſelf, and which like that, never ſtands ſtill, made ſeveral of the Courtiers jealous of the Fortune or rather the Merit of *Dorffling*, and there were ſome who did not ſtick to ſay, that if the Marſhal came to be ever ſo great a Nobleman, he wou'd always retain the Air of a Taylor. This being

being carry'd to *Dorffling*, *True enough*, ſaid he, *I was a Taylor, and I have cut out Cloth; but now*, ſaid he, clapping his Hand to the Hilt of his Sword, *I have an Inſtrument in my Hand, with which I'll cut off the Ears of any Man that ſlanders me.*

This brave Fellow liv'd to a great Age, and left a Son who was one of the King of *Pruſſia's* Lieutenant-Generals, and Colonel of a Regiment of Dragoons, but died without Iſſue. He had not quite the Vivacity of his Father, but he had his Honour and Integrity.

Going out of the Fiſh-market, as we turn to the right, one perceives the *Lutheran* Church of *St. Peter* *, which is a conſiderable Structure; and then we come into that call'd the *Fryars* Street, the Houſes of which are all well built. In this Street ſtands the Palace where the *Aulic* Council meets, which in *France* they call the *Parlement*; 'tis here that all Civil Cauſes are try'd, and from thence there lies an Appeal to the King's Council.

Beyond the Palace there is a Square, on the Right ſide of which there's a Church with a Cupola which belongs to the *Calviniſts*, and is look'd upon as the Cathedral of *Berlin*: For you know that the late King made two Biſhops, one in *Pruſſia* and the other at *Berlin*, and they were the Prelates that crown'd him. They are ſince dead, and the preſent King lets their Sees lie vacant. In this Church is the Tomb of the Royal Family. There's a great Row of Buildings over againſt it, which conſiſts of ſeveral uniform Houſes belonging to Mer-

* This Church being deſtroy'd by Lightning in 1730, is magnificently rebuilt. The 21ſt of *Auguſt* 1734, the new Spire of it, which had been 4 Years erecting, and was carry'd up to the Height of about 190 Feet, fell at 9 o'clock at Night upon the Roof of the Church, whereby that and the neighbouring Houſes ſuffer'd very great Damage. How it happen'd, no body yet knows; ſome ſay it was caus'd by Thunder, others by an Earthquake, and ſome will have it that it fell down of its own accord.

chants,

chants, and ſupported by ſtately Arches with Shops under them, where are ſold all ſorts of Goods. Turning round by that Piazza, brings one to a ſecond Branch of the River, which divides the Ward of *Coln* from that of *Werder*. This River which has three wooden Bridges over it, is confin'd in a Canal lin'd with Freeſtone, and form'd by two fine Kays.

The moſt conſiderable Edifices in the Ward of *Werder* are the Royal Cuſtom-Houſe, ſo commodiouſly ſituate that Boats can come up cloſe to it: The *French* School, and their Church, which is ſerv'd by able Miniſters; ſome of whom, as the late M. *Lenfant* (Author of the celebrated *Hiſtory* of the *Council of Conſtance*, &c. and Chaplain to the King of *Pruſſia*) M. de *Beauſobre* and M. *Jacquelot*, &c. have acquir'd a Reputation in the Republic of Letters. The Royal Hunting-Houſe is a large magnificent Structure for lodging the Great Huntſman and all his inferior Officers: There too is the great Dog-Kennel and the Magazines for all the Hunting Equipage. Near this place is the Hotel or Palace for Ambaſſadors, where are likewiſe entertain'd ſuch Foreign Princes as are not of a Rank high enough to be accommodated in the King's Palace. This Hotel belong'd formerly to the Baron *de Danckelman*, Prime Miniſter to King *Frederic* when he was only Elector, and being built by the ſaid Miniſter at a time when he was ſuch a Favourite that he did almoſt what he pleas'd, he ſpar'd no Coſt to render it a Manſion worthy of his high Station. I was aſſur'd by Perſons of Credit then alive, that after it was built, the late King had a Deſire to ſee it, upon which occaſion M. *de Danckelman* made a great Entertainment for him; and that while the Queen and the whole Court were dancing, the King retir'd into his Miniſter's Cloſet, to have a private Conference with him; and looking very earneſtly on a certain Pic-

ture

ture there, M. *de Danckelman* told him, that Picture and all that he ſaw wou'd ſoon be his Majeſty's. The King not knowing what he meant, deſir'd his Miniſter to explain himſelf; whereupon he made anſwer, 'That he ſhou'd very ſhortly incur his 'Diſpleaſure; that his Fall wou'd be attended by 'the Forfeiture of all his Eſtate; that he ſhou'd be 'arreſted and committed to the *Spandau* Priſon; 'and that there he ſhou'd be confin d ten Years, at 'the Expiration of which his Innocence wou'd 'be made to appear, his Eſtate wou'd be reſtor'd 'to him, and he ſhou'd be taken again into his 'Majeſty's Favour.' The King, who was at that time very fond of his Miniſter, and did not think he cou'd ever do without him, ridicul'd what he had ſaid as the Surmiſe of a Viſionary, and was going to ſwear by the New Teſtament then upon a Table in the Room, that this ſad Prophecy wou'd never come to paſs. But the Miniſter held his Hand, and begg'd him not to take an Oath which it wou'd not be in his power to keep.

I tell you this Story juſt as I had it from a Lady of Quality to whom the King himſelf told it: But in ſhort, let the Story be as it will, 'tis very certain that M. *de Danckelman* was diſgrac'd, committed Priſoner to *Spandau*, and from thence remov'd to *Peitz*, without any Companion but his Wife, who generouſly deſir'd to ſuffer Impriſonment with him. His Confinement laſted much longer than he had propheſy'd; and when at length he obtained his Releaſe, he was not reſtor'd to his Employments, nor even to his Eſtate. 'Tis ſaid indeed that the preſent King, who on his Acceſſion to the Crown ſent for M. *de Danckelman* to *Berlin*, offer'd him the Miniſtry; but that the Baron excus'd himſelf by reaſon of his great Age and his tedious Impriſonment, which had made him loſe the Connection of Public Affairs. This Miniſter died lately

lately, having lived to the Age of fourſcore. His remarkable Diſgrace, and fifteen Years Confinement in a Priſon, had not ſunk his Spirits, nor ſhock'd his Conſtancy of Mind; and one ſhall ſcarce meet with an Inſtance in Hiſtory, either before or ſince, of more Merit and more Misfortune in one and the ſame Perſon. He was a paſſionate Admirer of Learned Men, and a Rewarder of Virtue. In a word, by the Diſgrace of this Great Man, the State loſt a faithful diſintereſted Miniſter, and Men of Learning loſt a *Mecænas*, full of Zeal and ſolid Knowledge, who never fail'd to ſupport by his own Authority, and to procure a Reward from his Maſter, for all Perſons that apply'd to him with any Propoſal that was uſeful and uncommon.

To go from the Ambaſſadors Hotel to the New Town, one muſt paſs before the Houſe belonging to the Governour of *Berlin* *, who is at preſent the Marſhal Count *de Wartenſleben*; a Nobleman whoſe Virtues, long Services, and great Age, challenge Veneration. The Houſe he lives in was built by order of the Elector *Frederic William*, for the Reception of the Marſhal *de Schomberg*, who reſign'd the Battoon of the Marſhal of *France* to *Lewis* XIV. after that Prince had revok'd the Edict of *Nantes*, and came with a numerous Retinue of Gentlemen, to deſire Employment under the Elector. Accordingly that Prince gave him the Command of his Troops, but the Marſhal quitted that Employment, to accompany the PRINCE of ORANGE to *England*, in his famous Expedition againſt his Father-in-Law; and he likewiſe attended that Prince to *Ireland*, where

* This Houſe is no longer the Governour's; for the King who has cauſed great Additions to be made to it, has given it to the Prince Royal, and it goes by the Name of the *Prince Royal's Palace*. The Governour lives at preſent in the Street *Royale*, the King having purchas'd the fine Houſe of *Catſch* there purpoſely for the Governour's Reſidence.

he acquir'd great Glory, but was kill'd in paſſing the River *Boyne*.

The *Governour's Houſe* is ſeparated by a great Square from the *Arſenal*, which is one of the compleateſt Fabrics in *Europe*, and was built according to a Model deſign'd by *Bot*, whom I mention'd to you before; which ſkilful Architect has, upon this occaſion, equall'd any thing that was ever done by the famous *Bernin*.

The intire Structure conſiſts of 4 main Bodys of Building, which form a ſpacious Quadrangle in the middle. The lower Story is of Ruſtic Architecture, with arch'd Windows. There are 3 great Porticoes at the Entrance to each Front. Over the principal Gate there's the Picture of the late King, in a great Medal of Braſs. The four Cardinal Virtues of a Gigantic Size, are plac'd on Pedeſtals by the Portico, and ſeem to look towards the King's Effigies, which is ſupported by Fame and Victory. The *Corinthian* Order prevails throughout the firſt Story, and is very artfully executed. A Gallery or Balluſtrade runs round the whole Edifice, and is adorn'd with Trophies and Statues, particularly a very perfect one of *Mars*, ſitting upon a Heap of Arms of different ſorts; and the Decoration of all together is noble and majeſtic. Studs of Iron in form of Cannon are plac'd at proper Diſtances, and ſupport Iron Chains, hung in Feſtoons, which hinder People from clambering up to the Windows.

The Inſide of this *Arſenal* is as magnificent as the Outſide. The lower Rooms are ſtor'd with a great number of Braſs Cannon. The Walls and Pillars that ſupport the Arch are garniſh'd with Cuiraſſes and Helmets. In the upper Story there are ſeveral Rooms full of Arms, rang'd in ſuch Order as can never be enough admir'd.

Behind the *Arſenal* there's the Houſe of the General of the Ordnance, which alſo contains the Foundery,

Foundery, where Men are continually at work.

Beſides this *Arſenal*, there are ſeveral others in *Berlin*, where they keep Field-Pieces, Iron Cannon, and all that belongs to the Train of Artillery. 'Twas the late Margrave *Philip**, Brother to *Frederic* I. who when he was Great Maſter of the Ordnance began to put the King's *Arſenals* into a good State. But King *Frederic William* has finiſh'd what his ſaid Uncle began, and has put the Artillery on ſuch a footing, that 'tis a queſtion if any *Arſenal* in *Europe* is on a better Regulation.

A Rampart and a Ditch ſeparate the *Werder* from the *Dorothy-Stadt*, or New Town, which is for moſt part inhabited by *French* Families. It had the Name of *Dorothy-Stadt* in honour of the Electreſs *Dorothy* of *Holſtein-Gluckſburg*, the ſecond Wife of *Frederic William*, who with her own Hand planted the firſt Lime-Tree of the ſeven great Rows which divide this Ward into two Parts. The middlemoſt Row, which is the wideſt, is incloſ'd with Balluſtrades, and forms a pleaſant Graſs-Walk for Foot Paſſengers. The Walks on each ſide are pav'd, and ſerve as a Ring for the Coaches. Nothing is more beneficial and agreeable than taking the Air in this Place, where you may have any thing that can be deſir'd in a City. At the end of one of theſe Walks is a Gate which opens to the Park, the Walks of which being above a League in length, form a fine Point of View.

On both ſides the Lime-Tree Rows, are Houſes, among which the Palace of Madame the Margra-

* This Prince died at *Schwedt*, *Dec.* 19. 1711. He left two Sons, one of whom was marry'd in 1734, to the Princeſs *Dorothea Sophia* the King of *Pruſſia*'s fourth Daughter, then about fifteen Years of age. So that his Majeſty, who had ſix Daughters, marry'd four of them within the ſpace of four Years, and has now but two more to diſpoſe of.

vine, Dowager * to the Margrave *Philip*, Brother to the late King, is one of the beſt. The late Margrave purchas'd this Palace (which at that time was inconſiderable) of the Wife of *Weiller* Colonel of the Artillery, who had thrown up his Employments, Wife, Children and all, to go with a Lady of Quality, that was in love with him, to *Vienna*. This Gentlewoman paſs'd for a modern *Sappho*, and every body talk'd of her Virtue and good Senſe. But being a Slave to the Follies of Love, and aſham'd to let them be ſeen at *Berlin*, where ſhe was counted an Oracle, ſhe reſolv'd to quit the Place of her Birth, and engag'd her Lover to leave all and follow her.

The Margrave made conſiderable Augmentations to this Houſe, and render'd it very commodious. The Furniture of the Palace alſo is rich, and worthy of the Princeſs who reſides in it.

Oppoſite to the Margravine's Palace is a Building which was formerly call'd the King's Little Stables, but has been metamorphos'd into Caſerns for the Gendarmery; they diſcover the Magnificence of *Frederic* I. who caus'd them to be built. The Apartments that run over the Stables are occupied by the Academy of Painters, and that of Arts and Sciences. Behind the Stables there's the Obſervatory, with a great number of Aſtronomical and Mathematical Inſtruments, of which there are many of a new Invention.

Frederic-Stadt, which is the fifth Ward of *Berlin*, communicates with the New Town and the *Werder*. This is one of the pleaſanteſt Wards in the whole City, the Streets being ſpacious, ſtrait, and planted with Lime Trees.

* Her Name is *Jean Charlotte*, and ſhe is the youngeſt Siſter of Prince *Leopold* of *Anhalt Deſſau*, being the Daughter of the Prince *John George* II. by *Henrietta Catherine*, Daughter of *Frederic Henry* Prince of *Orange*.

Perhaps

Perhaps I have dwelt too long upon the Metropolis of the Electorate of *Brandenburgh*; but I thought that as there had been no true Account yet given of this City, you wou'd not be ſorry to have it from me. If I have offended, 'tis in ſtriving to oblige; for to tell you the plain Truth, I take no pleaſure in deſcribing Towers and Walls.

The next day after my Arrival here, I had the Honour to ſee the King, who was then ſeeing his Soldiers mount guard. He is a Prince of a middling Stature, and in very good Plight of Body: His Air commands Reſpect; yet, when he pleaſes, no Prince in the World can be more gracious. I heard him ſpeak to his Officers in ſuch a kind manner as cou'd not but charm them; I admir'd his Genius for military Diſcipline, and perceiv'd that with the Glance of an Eye he cou'd diſcover the leaſt Fault committed againſt that wonderful Exactneſs which is introduc'd in the Evolutions of his Troops. After the Guards had perform'd their Exerciſe, the King ſtay'd to ſee them file off. I never yet ſaw Troops march with more Order and State, ſo that it ſeem'd as if they were all mov'd by one Spring. All the Soldiers are young, of an even Stature, and the cleverest Fellows that Nature ever form'd: they are well cloath'd, and have ſuch an Air of Neatneſs, that even the private Centinels might all paſs for Officers. I remember you was prejudic'd againſt their Cloathing; their Cloaths you ſaid were too ſtrait, and too ſhort. I was of your Opinion once, and think ſo ſtill, when I happen to ſee one of their Officers and Soldiers ſingly among us, who wear Night-Gowns rather than Coats; but when I ſee a whole Body of *Pruſſians* together, I am of another Opinion, and think their Dreſs gives them a Warlike Air which other Troops have not. You will tell me perhaps, that the Cloathing of the *Pruſſians* is good in a Garriſon, but that in the Field their Garments are

not wide enough to cover the Soldiers in the Night. I anſwer, that the *Pruſſian* Soldiers are in no danger of not being cover'd, becauſe when they are in the Field, every Captain is to carry as many Coverlids, as there are Comrades in his Company. But you'll ſay, this muſt be a very great Incumbrance, and take up a deal of Equipage. 'Tis true, it may require two Sumpter Horſes in a Company, but a Soldier fares the better for it; becauſe when he goes wet into the Camp, he can get his Cloaths dry'd in the Night while he is under his Coverlid. After all, the Incumbrance is no greater at preſent, for thoſe Troops, than it was at the time when all the *Pruſſian* Infantry had Cloaks, which the Soldiers wore, was the Weather ever ſo hot, folded over their Shoulders, and ty'd both before and behind by their Belt. If they had any haſty March to make, ſuch as I ſaw they made in *Flanders* in 1708, when they went to attack the *French* near *Audenarde*, the *Pruſſians* left their Cloaks behind with a Guard, and when the Battle was join'd, the Captains were oblig'd to ſend for their Cloaks. In ſhort, what makes me think the *Pruſſian* Cloathing the moſt convenient for a Soldier, is, that moſt of the *German* Princes are now come into it, and like it well. The Troops of *Saxony*, and *Brunſwic* in particular, are cloath'd like thoſe of *Pruſſia*.

The *Pruſſian* Troops, which are new cloath'd every Year, have Breeches of Woollen Cloth for the Winter, and of Linnen for the Summer; and they are allow'd Shirts, Necks and Spatterdaſhes: Their Pay is good and regular; the Soldier is compell'd to do his Duty, but when he does it, enjoys more Liberty than in the Service of any other Nation: ſo that were I to carry a Muſket, I fancy it wou'd be in the Service of *Pruſſia*, where ſuch a ſtrict Diſcipline is obſerv'd, that the Soldier is no Swearer, and is not allow'd to game, and where in a word he does not

abandon

abandon himſelf to Licentiouſneſs. On Sundays and Saints Days they are requir'd to go twice a day to hear a Sermon: The Catholicks have the liberty of going to Maſs. In ſhort, good Manners are introduc'd and obſerv'd in thoſe Troops to ſuch a Nicety, that you wou'd wonder at it.

All the Infantry is cloath'd in blue. It depends on the Colonel of every Regiment, to order what Waiſtcoats and Trimming he pleaſes for the Clothes. The Horſe and Dragoons wear white, but the Houſhold Troops blue, with Campaign Coats of Gold Lace. The Huſſars Cloathing is red, but the Garbs of the Officers both of Foot and Horſe are plain, and only differ from the Apparel of the Soldiers in the fineneſs of the Cloth; tho' there are ſome Regiments whoſe Waiſtcoats are bedaub'd all over with Gold or Silver Lace.

The Colours, which are uniform in all the Regiments, are white, with the King's Device, repreſenting an Eagle flying towards the Sun with this Motto, *Nec Soli cedit.* There's ſuch a Uniformity preſerv'd in all things throughout the Army, even in their Guns, Swords, Bayonets, *&c.* that in every Regiment they wear the very ſame, even to their Shoe-Buckles.

The ſame Regularity is obſerv'd in the Horſe and Dragoons, which ride both upon black Horſes; and indeed they are not permitted to have any others, the Officers themſelves being not exempt from this Rule, when they are at the head of their Squadrons or Companies. The Houſings and Equipage of the latter are of the ſame Pattern, and extremely rich. All the Horſe wear Buff-Coats, and underneath Cuiraſſes. They perform their Exerciſe on Foot like the Infantry, and with the ſame Exactneſs. The Kettle-Drums and Trumpets of all the Horſe are of Silver.

There is not a Captain in all the *Pruſſian* Army but has at leaſt ten ſupernumerary Men; ſo

that theſe included, the King's Forces amount to near 100000, all pick'd Men. You cou'd not but admire if you were to ſee how they behave; inſomuch that whenever they take the Field, 'tis pity but Fortune ſhou'd favour them.

Not many Days after my Arrival here, the King being gone to viſit his Kingdom, I had the Honour of waiting on the Queen. This Princeſs, whoſe Name is *Sophia Dorothea*, is Siſter to the preſent King of *Great Britain*, being the Daughter of *George* I. the late King, and of *Sophia Dorothea* Princeſs of *Brunſwic-Zell*. And ſhe does every thing that is worthy of her Auguſt Extraction; for ſurely never did Daughter more reſemble a Father; ſhe has the ſame Benignity and Wiſdom, the ſame Equity and Juſtice, and Sweetneſs of Temper. Like him ſhe knows the Charms of a private Life, and Friendſhip, on a Throne: Like him ſhe is ador'd by her Subjects and her Domeſtics, and is the chief Bleſſing and Darling of both. To extend Goodneſs and Affability farther, were impoſſible; there being no Foreigners but what are charm'd with the gracious Manner in which this Princeſs receives them. To a thouſand Virtues worthy of Veneration, ſhe has added the ſingular Talent of ſpeaking the Language of ſeveral Countries which ſhe never ſaw, with as much Delicacy as if they had been her Mother Tongues. The *French* Language eſpecially, is ſo familiar to her, that one wou'd take her to be a Princeſs of the Royal Family of *France*; and the Grandeur and Majeſty that accompany all her Actions, induce thoſe even who don't know her, to be of Opinion that ſhe was born to reign.

That which ſtill more endears this Queen to her People, is the Care ſhe takes of the Education of her Family; which conſiſts of four Princes, and ſix Princeſſes. The eldeſt of the Sons is ſtil'd the

Prince

Prince Royal *. This young Prince is handſome, charms every one by his Kindneſs and Good-Nature; and loves Reading, Muſick, the Arts, and Magnificence: His Sentiments, his Behaviour, and his Actions, make it probable, that if he comes to the Crown, his Reign will be one of thoſe mild and peaceable Reigns, which procure Kings that Love of their People, wherein conſiſts their true Glory. The Care of the Prince Royal's Education was committed firſt of all to Madam *de Camke*, one of the Queen's Ladies of Honour, and Governeſs of the Children of *Pruſſia*. But this Lady left the Charge of the latter to the Sub-Governeſs, Madam *de Rocoule*, and her Daughter Mademoiſelle *de Montbail*. Madam *de Rocoule* had alſo the honour to be Sub-Governeſs to the King; ſo that ſhe was no Novice in the forming of young Princes. As ſhe talks nothing but *French*, ſhe has taught it to the King's Children; who ſpeak it with as much eaſe as they do the *German* Language. At ſeven Years of Age the Prince Royal was taken out of the Hands of the Women; and the Count *de Finck* of *Finckenſtein*, Lieutenant-General of the King's Forces, a Knight of his Order, and Colonel of a Regiment of Horſe, was appointed his Royal Highneſs's Governour; and the Baron *de Kaleſtein* was made Sub-Governour. The King's Choice of both theſe Gentlemen was univerſally applauded.

The eldeſt of the King's Children is *Frederica-Sophia-Wilhelmina*, the Princeſs Royal; who was born in 1709. I was at *Berlin* at the Ceremony of her Baptiſm, which was performed in the Chapel of the Caſtle, in preſence of *Frederic* IV. King of *Den-*

* He marry'd (in *June* 1733,) the Princeſs *Elizabeth Chriſtina*, of *Brunſwick-Lunenburgh*, and *Bevern*, Daughter of *Ferdinand Albert* Duke of *Brunſwic-Lunenburgh*, and *Bevern*, Field-Marſhal General of the Armies of the Emperor and Empire; and Preſumptive Heir to the Duke Regent of *Brunſwic-Lunenburg Wolfenbuttle*.

Denmark, *Frederic Auguſtus* King of *Poland*, and *Frederic* I. King of *Pruſſia*. The Birth of this Princeſs, and the Circumſtance of three Kings and a Queen attending at her Baptiſm, gave occaſion to a great many Copies of Verſes. All the Poets ſaid that the Preſence of theſe three Kings, was a Sign that ſhe wou'd one day have Poſſeſſion of three Crowns. They had then in view the Crowns of *Great Britain*, that were to devolve to the Family of *Hanover*; in which there was a young Prince *, who, it was then imagin'd, was to be in time the Huſband of this Princeſs. Whether this Match will ever take place, and whether the Princeſs will be Queen, I can't ſay; but if ſhe is not, Fortune will not do Juſtice to her Merit.

The Princeſs *Frederica Louiſa*, the King's ſecond Daughter, is lately marry'd to the Margrave of *Brandenburgh Anſpach*. 'Tis ſaid that his Majeſty's third Daughter, the Princeſs *Philippina Charlotte*, is promis'd to † *Charles*, hereditary Prince of *Brunſwic Bevern*, Nephew to the Empreſs Regent.

The other Princes and Princeſſes, the King's Children ‖, are as yet too young to furniſh any Particulars for their Character. In a word, put them all together, they form a very fine Family.

The Margravine, Dowager of the Margrave *Philip*,

* This was his Royal Highneſs, now Prince of *Wales*. All *Europe*, in ſhort, thought, as did the Poets of that Time; and every one in general mark'd out the Princeſs for this Prince. It was then too the Deſire of both the Queens; and the Princeſs herſelf ſeem'd to have been brought up in that Notion. But when 'twas leaſt of all expected, certain Reaſons of State cancell'd all theſe Views; and the King of *Pruſſia* thought fit to marry his eldeſt Daughter in 1731, to the Hereditary Prince of *Brandenburg-Bareith*: as King *George* II. of *Great Britain*, in 1736, thought fit to marry his eldeſt Son to her Highneſs, *Auguſta*, youngeſt Siſter of the preſent Duke of *Saxe-Gotha*.

† The Marriage was actually celebrated between them, in *July* 1733.

‖ The fourth marry'd in 1734, to the King's Couſin, the Margrave of *Brandenburgh-Schwedt*.

Philip, Brother to the late King, is the firſt in Rank at Court, next to the King's Children: She was born Princeſs of *Anhalt Deſſau*. Her Royal Highneſs was lately choſe Abbeſs of *Herford*, a ſovereign Abby in *Weſtphalia*, (in a Town belonging to the King of *Pruſſia*, as part of the Principality of *Ravenſberg*;) whoſe Canoneſſes muſt be all Princeſſes, or Counteſſes of the Empire. This Princeſs, tho' ſhe is paſt her Bloom, is ſtill the Ornament of the Court; and no Perſon can be more civil than ſhe is to Foreigners; ſo that 'tis as much a Pleaſure as a Duty to pay one's Court to her. When the King is at *Berlin*, and the Queen has no Drawing-Room, the whole Court repairs to the Margravine's Houſe, where her Royal Highneſs daily keeps an elegant Table; to which ſhe admits the Quality of both Sexes. She is the Mother of two Princes and a Princeſs; the Sons are the Margraves *Frederic* and *Henry*, and the Daughter is marry'd to the hereditary Prince of *Wirtemberg*. The young Margrave *Frederic* reſides at *Schwedt* upon the *Oder*, where he has a very fine Houſe; and does not come to Court but when he can't avoid it. The young Margrave *Henry* reſides commonly at *Berlin*. Both theſe Princes are handſome, luſty, and well ſhap'd.

The Margrave *Albert*, the King's Uncle *, lives in his Majeſty's Palace, tho' he is eight Months of the Year at *Frederichsfelde*, a Pleaſure-Houſe about a League from *Berlin*. He is the ſecond Son of the Elector *Frederic William*, and *Dorothy* of *Holſtein Gluckſ-*

* This Prince died in 1731. His eldeſt Son, the Margrave *Charles*, ſucceeded him in the Grand Maſterſhip of the Order of St. *John*; and had his Regiment of Foot in the Service of *Pruſſia*. Prince *Frederic*, his Royal Highneſs's ſecond Son, had his Regiment in the Service of the States General of the *United Provinces*; and the Count *de Truchſſes-Walbourg*, a Major-General, had his Regiment of Horſe. He was ſent to compliment *Lewis* XV. upon his Coronation; and afterwards on the ſame Commiſſion to the Emperor at *Prague*. His Wit and Politeneſs were applauded at both thoſe Courts.

Gluckſburg: He is well ſhap'd, has a noble Air, and has been in his time a very good Dancer: He is fond of Grandeur and Pleaſures. At the beginning of the laſt War he diſtinguiſhed himſelf very much at the Siege of *Keyſerſwaert*, and other Places, where he commanded the Troops of the King his Brother. His Royal Highneſs is Governor of *Pomerania*, Knight of the Black Eagle, and Colonel of a Regiment of Foot, and of another of Horſe, in the King's Service: He has alſo a Regiment of Foot in the Service of the *United Provinces*; and is Grand Maſter of the ſix Commanderies of the Order of St. *John* of *Jeruſalem*, who, at the Alteration of Religion in the time of *Luther*, withdrew from the Grand Maſter of *Malta*, and aſſum'd to themſelves a Right of chuſing a Grand Maſter under the Protection of the Elector of *Brandenburgh*. The Margrave marry'd a Princeſs of *Courland*, Heireſs to the Freeholds of her Uncle Duke *Ferdinand*, the laſt of her Family. This Princeſs, tho' not reckon'd a Beauty of the firſt Rate, has a great Share of Charms and Good-nature, Modeſty and Politeneſs. Their Royal Highneſſes are perfectly civil to thoſe who have Acceſs to them; which is the reaſon, that notwithſtanding the little Concern they have in Buſineſs, they have always a numerous Court. They have three Princes, and two Princeſſes. The eldeſt of the Sons is *Charles*, a Prince whoſe Perſon and Character are very amiable. The eldeſt of the Daughters is marry'd to the Duke of *Saxe-Eyſenach*.

The laſt Prince of the Royal Family, is the Margrave *Chriſtian Lewis*, third Son of the Elector *Frederic William* by the ſecond Marriage. This Prince is Governour of the City and County of *Halberſtadt*; he has a Regiment of Foot, is Knight of the Order of the Black Eagle, and Commander of that of St. *John*. He ſtudied at *Leyden*; after which, he

ſerv'd with diſtinction in *Italy*. He now lives retir'd from Court at *Malchau*, a Houſe about a Mile from *Berlin*, which the late King bought of the Heirs of M. *de Fuchs*, his Miniſter of State. There the Margrave, who has a Reliſh for the Pleaſures of private Life, paſſes his Time in Hunting, Reading, and every innocent Pleaſure that an agreeable Country is capable of furniſhing. This Prince has been a handſome well made Man; he has a grand Air, and there's ſomething heroic in his Phyſiognomy: In the very Flower of his Youth he was a conſtant Admirer of Virtue, and might ever be quoted for an Example of Sobriety. He is ſo exceeding fat, that it's fear'd he won't live to be a very old Man *.

All the Princes of the Royal Family wear the *Pruſſian* Order, *viz.* that of the Black Eagle; and receive it as ſoon as they are born. 'Tis an Orange Ribband, to which is appendant a Croſs enamel'd with blue, reſembling the Croſs of *Malta*. A Star of Silver is embroider'd on the Coat; and in the middle of it is an Orange Eſcutcheon, over which is a black Eagle crown'd with Wings diſplay'd, holding in one of its Talons a Crown of Laurel, and in the other a Thunder-bolt, with the Motto SUUM CUIQUE, in Letters of Gold. This Order was inſtituted by *Frederic* I. the ſixth of *January* 1701, *O. S.* on account of his Coronation at *Koningſberg*. He call'd it the Order of the Black Eagle, becauſe a Black Eagle forms the Arms of *Pruſſia*; and he choſe an Orange Ribband, in memory of the Electreſs his Mother, who was a Princeſs of *Orange*; in Right of whom he pretends to be next Heir to *William* III. King of *England*, and Prince of *Orange*.

The

* He died ſuddenly in *Auguſt* 1734, at *Malchau*, aged 57, being born the 4th of *May* 1677, O. S. He was not marry'd.

The Princes of the Royal Family are not exempt from paſſing thro' the Degrees of military Service; and 'tis not here as in other places, where they have Regiments and Governments as ſoon as they are born. The King will have them to know how to obey, before they come to command; and 'tis an Encouragement to the Officers to find themſelves ſo far honour'd, as to be on a Par in the Service, with thoſe who are born to be their Sovereigns. The Prince Royal has a Regiment of Horſe *. M. *de Lopel* †, a Major-General, commanded that Regiment formerly, but the King preferring him to the Government of *Cuſtrin*, this Regiment has for Colonel M. *de Wreech*, a Perſon of a good Family in the new Marquiſate. His Father, who was one of the King's Lieutenant-Generals, had ſerv'd the late Elector *Frederic William*, the late King, and his preſent Majeſty. M. *de Wreech*, whom I am ſpeaking of, was, at his return from his Travels, appointed by the late King a Gentleman of his Bed-Chamber: After that Prince's Death, his preſent Majeſty enter'd him into his Service, and gave him a Troop of Horſe. This Gentleman diſtinguiſh'd himſelf greatly in 1708, at the Battle of *Audenarde*; where he was *Aid de Camp* to the Marſhal *de Natzmer*, then General of the Cavalry: He had a Horſe kill'd under him, and was taken Priſoner; but the Enemy in their Flight not watching him very ſtrictly, he found means to get off when the Night came and put an end to the Battle. He lay hid in a Ditch till next day, in danger every moment of being knock'd on the head by our own Men; but when the Day broke, he rejoin'd his General, who had receiv'd a ſlight

* The King thought fit ſome time ago, to confer this Regiment of Horſe upon his ſecond Son, Prince *Auguſtus-William*, and to give the Prince Royal a Regiment of Foot.

† M. *de Lopel* died the beginning of 1733, in his Government of *Cuſtrin*.

ſlight Wound in the Head. M. *de Wreech* is one of the richeſt Subjects the King has; but he is worthy of his Fortune, and uſes it like a Man of Quality. He is certainly a valuable Gentleman, has a noble Soul, and Senſe and Knowledge enough to capacitate him to ſerve his King and Country both in Peace and War.

Berlin is not a City where you ought to look for the moſt lively Diverſions; the King, to whoſe Will every body conforms, not being fond of them himſelf. Yet when once a Man is known there, he will find Amuſement enough; for the People are affable and civil, make plentiful Entertainments, and have very good Wine.

When the King is abſent, the Queen has a Drawing-Room every Night, from ſeven o' clock till ten; when her Majeſty ſups with the Princes and Princeſſes of her Family, and other Perſons of Diſtinction of both Sexes. But when the King is at *Berlin*, the Queen keeps no Drawing-Room, unleſs ſome Foreign Prince happen to be there. Then there are Aſſemblies in the City alternatively, among Perſons of the firſt Rank, at which they ſometimes dance; and the King and Prince Royal frequently honour theſe Aſſemblies with their Preſence. When there is no grand Aſſembly, there are particular Societies, where they ſup, and play at ſmall Game.

The Miniſters of moſt conſequence at this Court are Meſſieurs *d'Ilgen*, *Grumkau*, and *Kniphauſen* *; theſe are they who treat of Foreign Affairs, and thro' whoſe hands paſs the Secrets of State: but the King's Prime Miniſter is the King himſelf, who is inform'd of every thing, and is deſirous to know every thing. He gives great Application to Buſineſs, but does it with extraordinary Eaſe; and nothing

* The firſt and the laſt have been dead ſome Years, and their Places ſupply'd by Meſſieurs *Bork* and *Poddewitz*, who have a juſt Title to the intire Poſſeſſion of the King's Confidence.

thing eſcapes his Penetration, nor his Memory, which is a very happy one. No body knows better than he where his Government is ſtrong, and where 'tis weak; and no Sovereign in the World is of more eaſy Acceſs, his Subjects being actually permitted to write to him, without any other Formality than ſuperſcribing the Letter, *To the King*. By writing underneath, *To be delivered into his Majeſty's own Hands*, one may be ſure that the King receives and reads it, and that the next Poſt he will anſwer it, either with his own Hand or by his Secretary: theſe Anſwers are ſhort, but peremptory, and they prevent a tedious painful Attendance. The King, who is an Enemy to vain Pomp and Pageantry, always goes abroad without any Guards, with only a ſmall Retinue, and ſometimes too walks on foot; he makes his Greatneſs to conſiſt in ſolid Power, in the having his Troops well diſciplin'd, his Places kept up in good Order, his Arſenals well provided, and his Treaſury full enough to enable him to oppoſe his Enemy in caſe he be attack'd. He never aims ſo much as to diſturb his Neighbours, much leſs to rob them; I heard him ſay one day, that *he had no Intention of attacking any body, nor of beginning a War; but if he was attack'd, he would defend himſelf the beſt he could:* a Conduct which he has religiouſly obſerved ever ſince he has been plac'd upon the Throne, even towards *Charles* XII. King of *Sweden*, notwithſtanding what is ſaid of him by a certain Author, who from ſorry Memoirs has wrote that Prince's Life. But I will not deviate from my Subject.

There's no Town in all the King of *Pruſſia*'s Dominions, except *Neufchâtel*, where he has not been; no Province which he does not know full well; not a noble Family but he can tell their Revenues; nor a Court of Juſtice but he is well acquainted with their chief Members. His Behaviour is plain; he knows

knows no Gallantry, and does not eaſily pardon it in his Officers. He is ſo true to his Conſort the Queen, that he wiſhes all Men would follow his Example, and that every Huſband would live only with the Woman whom God has allotted him. His Diverſion is Hunting; and for this reaſon, he reſides commonly at *Potzdam* or *Wuſterhauſen*, which are Pleaſure-Houſes four Miles from *Berlin*. Yet he generally goes on *Saturdays* into his Capital, where he holds a Council on *Sunday*, and returns on *Monday*. In the Winter he makes a longer ſtay at *Berlin:* but let him be either here or there, he is on the Parade every Day at ten o' clock, when his Soldiers mount the Guard; after which he gives Audience to his Miniſters, and holds a Council, or goes abroad for the Air. At Noon the King appears in a great Saloon, where are all the Generals and Officers, the Foreign Miniſters, and all the Court in general: There he converſes a few Moments, and then goes into another Room, where he dines with the Queen, the Princes and Princeſſes of his Family, and any other Perſons whom he has cauſed to be invited. His Table is commonly ſpread for eighteen Gueſts. After he has ſate about an Hour and half at Table, he retires to his Cloſet till ſix at Night, when he appears again in the Room where he held his Levee: There his Majeſty gives Orders to the Marſhal *Wartenſleben* Governor of *Berlin*, and to the Marſhal *Natzmer* Commandant of the Gendarmery. After this, he talks a-while with thoſe that are preſent, and then paſſes into a Room at ſome diſtance from his Apartment, to which the Queen repairs ſometimes with one or two Ladies in company. There are ten or a dozen Officers whom the King honours with his Confidence, who play here at *Picquet*, *Ombre*, and *Backgammon*. Here they alſo ſmoak, and to this Place the King ſends for ſuch as he has a mind to

talk with about ſpecial Affairs. I have been there twice upon ſuch an account. Here there is no manner of Reſtraint, but every body ſits down, the King diſpenſing with all the Reſpect that is due to him, and at eleven o' clock he diſmiſſes the Company and retires.

The King hunts when he is at *Potzdam* and *Wuſterhauſen*; but in other reſpects he leads the ſame Life there as he does at *Berlin*. At *Potzdam* he hunts the Stag, having for that end cauſed a great Foreſt to be paled in, where he has made noble Roads.

The Caſtle at *Potzdam*, which is very convenient, was built by the Elector *Frederic-William*, who commonly reſided at it; and after having run his glorious Race, died here the 29th of *April*, 1688. King *Frederic* I. made conſiderable Embelliſhments to it, particularly the great Gate opening into the main Court of the Caſtle, which is an admirable Piece of Architecture that was deſign'd by M. *Bot*, my Hero for Buildings. But all that the late King did, does not come up to the Works that have been added to it of late Years. The Town of *Potzdam* has been augmented two Thirds; the Streets are as ſtrait as a Line, with Trees planted, and Canals cut in them after the manner of *Holland*; the Houſes are uniform and built with Bricks. Beſides a great Hoſpital, which the King has founded here for his Soldiers Orphans, here is a conſiderable Fabric for Armourers, who make all thoſe Arms for the Forces and Arſenals, which were formerly made at *Liege*.

This Town is the Garriſon for the firſt Battalion of thoſe *Tall Grenadiers*, ſo much talk'd of in *Europe*. I proteſt to you that they exceed the common Report, being the compleateſt, the fineſt, and beſt-diſciplin'd Body that can be imagin'd. The Men are of all Nations, there being ſcarce a Prince in *Europe* but takes a pleaſure in ſending Recruits

to

to it. Some of theſe Grenadiers have had 1500 Crowns Liſt-Money; and ſeveral receive two Florins *per diem:* Some of them are very rich; others there are who trade, and have good Houſes at *Potzdam*. The talleſt and the beſt Man among them all was one call'd *Jonas*, (lately dead) who work'd heretofore in the Mines of *Norway*. The famous *Huguetan*, whom *Frederic* IV. King of *Denmark* created Count *de Guldenſtein*, took him from the Mines, and preſented him to the King. He then ſtoop'd in the Shoulders, and hobbled in walking; but by tricking him up, they gave him that good Air which he wanted.

'Tis certain, there are no Troops in the World where the Peaſant ſooner ſhakes off the clowniſh Air, and more eaſily aſſumes the military one. This gigantic Regiment has requir'd great Pains, and conſiderable Sums to eſtabliſh it; and I am aſſured it has coſt the King more than ſix other Regiments. But 'tis all his Majeſty takes delight in; and ſurely this Prince cannot but be commended for giving into a Pleaſure ſo noble, and ſo innocent.

Having given you ſome Account of *Potzdam*, I muſt alſo mention *Charlottenbourg* another Royal Houſe, a Mile from *Berlin*. This Caſtle ſtands on the *Spree*, ſo that one may go to it by Water: but the common Way is thro' the Park which is at the end of the great Walk from the new Town.

In the late King's time, whenever he was at *Charlottenbourg*, all the Road from *Berlin* to this Palace was lighted by Lanthorns erected on both ſides.

Charlottenbourg was formerly call'd *Lutzenbourg*. It was a ſmall Village belonging to M. *Dobergínſky*, Steward of the Houſhold to the Queen, (the King's Mother.) He had built a trifling Houſe there, and that Queen taking the Air there one day, liked the Situation of the Place ſo well, that ſhe bought it, and ſet about building there; but ſhe died before all the

Works ſhe had undertaken were finiſhed. However, her Huſband King *Frederic* I. cauſed them to be carried on, and made conſiderable Additions to them; and in order to perpetuate the Queen's Name, which was *Sophia-Charlotte*, he cauſed *Lutzenbourg* to be called *Charlottenbourg*. This Caſtle is one of the moſt conſiderable Structures in *Germany*; the Apartments are grand and ſplendid, and the Furniture very rich. There's a Cabinet adorn'd with the choiceſt Porcellane, ranged in ſuch order as is ſurpriſing: In another Cabinet there are Luſtres, a Tea-Table with Diſhes, a Coffee-Pot, and the whole Equipage in ſhort of ſolid Gold. The Chapel is one of the moſt ſuperb that can be; every ſide being adorn'd with Gold and Painting. The Orangery is one of the moſt magnificent in *Europe*; not only with regard to the Beauty and Number of its Trees, but the Greatneſs of the Building in which they are kept all the Winter.

I could tell you of ſeveral more Houſes which the late King had in the Neighbourhood of *Berlin*; but as they were ſuffer'd to run to ruin after he died, I think I had better entertain you with the Characters of the prime Nobility at this Court.

The Count *de Wartenſleben* is the oldeſt Marſhal. He is by Birth a *Weſtphalian*, and paſs'd his early days in the Service of *France*. He was Commander in chief of the Troops of the Duke of *Saxe-Gotha*, when King *Frederic* I. called him to his Service. The Count *de Wartemberg*, who was at that time the Chief Miniſter, wanted a Perſon to be at the head of the Troops, who ſhould be intirely devoted to himſelf: This was an Obedience he did not expect to find in the Counts *de Lottum*, *Dhona*, and *Denhoff*, nor in the other Generals whoſe long Services and Birth might make them aſpire to this military Dignity. He believed the fitteſt Perſon to be his Tool would be a Foreigner that ſhould be obliged

oblig'd to him for his Fortune: Therefore he caus'd the Marſhal's Batoon to be given to the Count *de Wartenſleben*, who anſwer'd to a tittle the Intention of the Miniſter his Benefactor. 'Tis true, that he never ſeconded his Revenge, but neither did he oppoſe it. He did the Buſineſs of his Office, and meddled not with the Intrigues of the Court. It may be ſaid of him, that he never deviated from the Path of Equity, and in Juſtice to him it muſt be own'd that he always did good, when it was in his power. Since the Death of the late King, his Authority and Intereſt are very much leſſened. Beſides, he is too far advanc'd in years to concern himſelf with almoſt any Buſineſs at all.

The General whoſe Power is moſt rever'd, is the Prince *Leopold* of *Anhalt-Deſſau*. In conſideration of his high Birth, and the Rank of Sovereign which he holds in the Empire, I ought to have nam'd him firſt; only the Count *de Wartenſleben* is the oldeſt Marſhal.

The Prince of *Anhalt* is Marſhal, Governour of the City of *Magdebourg*, Colonel of a Regiment of Foot, and Knight of the Order of the Black Eagle. This Prince, who is a Perſon of a good Stature and noble Preſence, happy Features and a lively Aſpect, was born with all the Qualifications of a General and a Soldier, being vigilant, laborious, indefatigable, equally patient of Heat and Cold, Want and Abundance; Brave even to Intrepidity, and poſſibly never equalled in this reſpect, unleſs we except *Charles* XII. King of *Sweden*: Being a Man of unexampled Rigour in Military Diſcipline, he will be obey'd; but then he rewards his Soldiers when they do their Duty, and ſometimes makes himſelf familiar with them: A warm and conſtant Friend, but an implacable Enemy when he thinks himſelf not well us'd; haughty to his Equals, civil and courteous to his Inferiors. In his Youth, he was a Wine-Bibber, and a Deboſhee;

but it has been obſerv'd, that neither Wine nor Women can detain him, when he is in the Purſuit of Glory. He is a religious Obſerver of his Promiſes, and never makes any but after mature Reflection. He is an Enemy to the Pomp and Conſtraint of the Lives of Great Men; an Oeconomiſt, perhaps more than becomes his Dignity; and is an abſolute Maſter in his Family and his Government, having poor, but dutiful Subjects, and well regulated Finances.

The Care of the Prince of *Anhalt*'s Education was committed to M. *de Chaliſac*, a Native of *Guienne*. This Gentleman found an ungovernable Temper in the young Prince which he had much ado to manage. The Prince happen'd very early to have a liking for Madamoiſelle *de Fobſen*, (whom he afterwards marry'd) which being not at all pleaſing to his Mother, (who was born Princeſs of *Orange*) ſhe thought the beſt way to cure him of his Fondneſs for her, wou'd be to ſend him abroad; and therefore appointed M. *de Chaliſac* to travel with him to *Italy*, and accordingly they made that Tour.

Chaliſac, who was my particular Friend, and whoſe Memory I honour, told me that this Prince's extraordinary Vivacity and Intemperance, had often made his Heart ake; but that whenever he happen'd to run aſtray, he was ſure to reclaim him by ſetting the Motives of Honour and Ambition in his view. To this purpoſe he related what happen'd when they were at *Venice*, viz. that the Prince came home one Morning very much in Liquor, after having ſpent the whole Night in a Debauch; and M. *de Chaliſac* reproving him, perhaps a little too ſharply, as the young Prince thought, he ran and ſnatch'd up a Piſtol, and returning with it to his Governour, ſaid, *You Dog, I muſt kill you*. M. *de Chaliſac*, without appearing

pearing ſurpriz'd, looking ſternly at the Prince, made him anſwer; *Shoot me if you think fit; but think how worthy a Figure you'll make in Hiſtory, when it ſhall be recorded that a Prince of* Anhalt, *a Prince of a Family that has given Emperors to* Germany, *murder'd his Tutor.* Theſe Words ſpoke with an Air of Authority made ſuch an Impreſſion on the young Prince, that he laid down his Piſtol ſaying, *You are indeed in the right; I ſhou'd have committed a villainous Action.*

The Prince on his Return from *Italy* to *Deſſau* ſhew'd that Time and Abſence had not that Effect upon him as they generally have upon Lovers. He return'd as much in love with Madamoiſelle *de Fobſen* as he was at ſetting out. He marry'd her in 1698, and ſoon after, *viz.* in 1701, ſhe was by the Emperor acknowledg'd a Princeſs of the Empire. He has had five Sons and two Daughters by her, the eldeſt of whom is dead.

But the Embraces of a tender Spouſe cou'd not keep him at home; a Warrior he was born, and a Warrior he wou'd be. The War being then kindled between the Emperor and the *French*, the Prince went to ſerve in the Army on the *Rhine*, and was preſent at the taking of *Keiſerſwaert*. Soon after, King *Frederic* I. gave him the Command of 6000 Men, whom he ſent to the Emperor's Aſſiſtance in *Italy*, where he ſignaliz'd himſelf in every Campaign, but eſpecially at the raiſing of the Siege of *Turin*. The Duke of *Savoy*, afterwards King of *Sardinia*, with whom the Prince had not a very good Underſtanding, doing me the Honour to talk to me about him one day, ſaid, *The Prince of* Anhalt *has too much Fire; but when he is ripen'd by Age, he will be a great General. He was born with the Genius of a Captain, and he has contributed to ſave my Crown.*

When a Neutrality was agreed on for *Italy* between the Emperor, his Allies, and *France*, the Prince of *Anhalt* was recall'd, and the King gave him the Command of his Troops in *Flanders*, where he maintain'd the Reputation which he had acquir'd in *Italy*, and was continued in his Command till the Peace of *Utrecht*.

The Obſtinacy of *Charles* XII. King of *Sweden* in refuſing to hearken to a Treaty for the Sequeſtration of *Stetin*, having oblig'd the King of *Pruſſia* to make war upon him, the Prince of *Anhalt* ſerving under the King, who then commanded his Army in Perſon, had the Honour to defend the Iſle of *Rugen*, againſt the King of *Sweden*, who came in the Night and attack'd it with Fury; but the *Swedes* were repuls'd, after having loſt a number of conſiderable Officers in the Action. Since the Treaty with *Sweden*, this Prince has had no occaſion to ſignalize his Valour. He reſides commonly at *Deſſau*, or at *Magdebourg*; and does not come to Court but when Affairs call him. He has three Sons in the King's Service, of whom the two eldeſt have Regiments of their own, and the third commands his Father's.

The King, who has a great Affection for the Prince of *Anhalt*, makes no conſiderable Regulation with regard to his Troops, or in any thing relating to the War-Office, without his Advice. His Majeſty has given him conſiderable Tracts of Land in *Pruſſia*, where 'tis ſaid the Prince is building not only Villages, but entire Towns.

M. *d'Arnheim* is the third Marſhal. This old Gentleman, who is paſt fourſcore, learnt the Art of War under two Great Maſters, the Elector *Frederic William* of *Brandenbourg*, and *Montecuculi* the Rival of *Turenne*.

The Marſhal *de Natzmer* is an old Soldier alſo, who has ſerv'd under ſeveral Commanders with very great Diſtinction;

Diſtinction; particularly the Prince of *Waldeck*, General of the *Dutch* Forces, the Prince of *Orange* afterwards King of *England*, and laſtly under the Duke of *Marlborough* and Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*; who had all an Eſteem for his Valour and Military Experience; this Marſhal having been in all the Battles which thoſe Generals fought in the *Netherlands*, and having been always wounded or had a Horſe ſhot under him.

After having mentioned the chief Commanders of the King's Forces to you, I think it incumbent on me to give you an Account of thoſe Perſons whoſe Credit or Employments have the greateſt Influence upon the Government; in which you will pleaſe to excuſe me, if I do not follow that Order I have hitherto obſerv'd in my Narrative.

The Baron *d'Ilgen* Firſt Miniſter of State, was born of an obſcure Family in *Weſtphalia*. After he had finiſhed his Studies, he commenc'd Secretary to M. *de Meinders*, Miniſter of State to the Elector *Frederic William*, and to King *Frederic* I. His Diſcretion and his Induſtry ſoon procur'd him the Favour of his Maſter, who put him Governour over his Nephew the Baron *de Heidekam*. M. *d'Ilgen* travell'd with the young Baron to *Holland*, *England*, and *France*, in which Tour they ſpent two Years. At his Return to *Berlin*, M. *de Meinders* enter'd him in Buſineſs, and the Elector *Frederic William* dying not long after, he procur'd him the Office of Secretary to the new Elector. In this Employment he behav'd with ſuch Circumſpection that he is ſtill continued in it, notwithſtanding the many Changes that have happen'd in the Miniſtry. The Baron *de Fuchs* one of the moſt able Miniſters that ever *Germany* produc'd, being charm'd with his Genius, gave him ſuch a Recommendation to the late King that he preferr'd him to a Seat in the Council, where *Ilgen* ſoon found out the way to make himſelf neceſſary. The

Count

Count *de Wartemberg*, whoſe Abilities were not ſo great but he ſtood in need of a Second, being then at the Head of the Council, conſulted in all matters with M. *d'Ilgen*, who, after the Count *de Wartemberg* retired, had the Province of Foreign Affairs committed to him ſolely, and has kept it ever ſince.

M. *d'Ilgen* has both Gaiety and Solidity in his Temper, a lively, fruitful Imagination, and a moſt pleaſing Aſpect. He is extremely ſober, and an excellent Oeconomiſt, being as great an Enemy to Pleaſure, as he is a Friend to Riches. He is humble ſometimes, even to exceſs; revengeful, crafty; a Maſter of his Temper, his Countenance, his Tongue, and his Eyes, which he accommodates altogether to the Situation of his Affairs. As by his Parts he raiſed himſelf, ſo by his Parts he ſupports himſelf. He is the ſole Repoſitary of his own Secrets, having no Confident nor Favourite to ſhare them. He is ſo indefatigable that he compoſes and writes all himſelf, keeping his Secretaries only to copy. In ſhort, he works like a Day-labourer, and makes the Miniſtry, as it were, a Handicraft. He ſpeaks well, but writes better; he affects *double Entendres* in his Anſwers, and artfully has recourſe, when he needs it, to an ambiguous Expreſſion. He has ſo little ſcruple, in point of Oaths, that he takes and breaks them with equal Indifference. He never made himſelf a Creature, but always removed and humbled thoſe that ever gave him any Umbrage. That which heightens his Character, and proves his Genius, is, that he has ſupported himſelf a long time, without Kindred, Friends, or Creatures, and perhaps without being too much honoured by the Favour of his Maſter*.

M.

* Since the writing of this, he is dead, and ſucceeded in the Management of Foreign Affairs by M. *de Borck*, Lieutenant-General

M. *de Grumkau* Miniſter of State, Lieutenant-General of the King's Forces, Colonel of a Regiment of Foot, and Knight of the Orders of St. *Andrew* of *Muſcovy*, and of the White-Eagle of *Poland*, is deſcended of an illuſtrious Family in *Pomerania*. His Father was Grand-Marſhal of the Elector *Frederic-William*, and died in that Poſt, at the beginning of the late King's Reign. M. *de Grumkau* being left a Minor, was ſent very young to *France*, to learn his Exerciſes, where he acquitted himſelf with Diligence, and the Approbation of his Superiors. At his return to *Berlin*, *Frederic* I. appointed him Gentleman of his Bed-chamber, and gave him a Company of Foot. Soon after which, he married Madamoiſelle *de la Chevallerie*, who was Maid of Honour to the Queen *Sophia-Charlotte*. It was not long before he was advanced; and during the laſt War he ſerved as a Brigadier in the Army in the *Netherlands*. At the ſame time he had the Care of the King's Affairs with my Lord Duke of *Marlborough*, and Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*. His manner of Be-

neral of the King's Forces, Knight of the Black-Eagle and St. *John*, Governor of *Stetin*, and Colonel of a Regiment of Foot. This Gentleman is deſcended from a very good Family in *Pomerania*, and ſerved with Diſtinction in the Army in *Flanders*. Since the Peace of *Utrecht*, he has been twice charged with the King's Affairs at the Emperor's Court, where he was highly eſteemed, eſpecially by Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*. Thoſe Foreign Miniſters who have to do with him, and who knew M. *d'Ilgen*, obſerve a great Contrariety in the Characters of the two Miniſters. The one was a Man of Intrigue, Craft, and Myſtery; the other, of Candour, Sincerity, and a noble Frankneſs. M. *de Tuhlmeier*, Nephew to the late M. *d'Ilgen*, who is Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, was, as it were, born to the Buſineſs, having been truſted from his Youth by his late Uncle. The Foreign Miniſters ſpeak well of him: he is very aſſiduous in his Office, and indeed ſuffers no Buſineſs to ſleep in his hands.

The Perſon who has the Affairs Criminal in his Cogniſance, is M. *de Vieban*, Miniſter of State, and Auditor-General of the Army. He ſucceeded M. *de Catſch*; is a Native of *Cologn*; and as he was at *Berlin* without Relations or Friends, his Advancement is only to be aſcribed to his own Merit and Abilities.

Behaviour ſhew'd that he was fit to be employ'd in great Affairs: but the Count *Wartemberg*, the Favourite, and Prime-Miniſter, being jealous of his Genius, kept him as much as he could out of any Share in Authority, and choſe rather to prefer him by War, than to employ him in the Miniſtry. The Favourites (Meſſieurs *de Camke)* who ſucceeded *Wartemberg*, perceiving M. *de Grumkau*'s ſuperior Abilities, were not more favourable to him than the Count was. He was preferr'd to be a Major-General at one of the laſt Promotions that was made by the late King; and *Frederic-William*, on his Acceſſion to the Throne, made him Lieutenant-General, and Miniſter of State.

M. *de Grumkau* is good-natur'd, civil, and affable. He has the Manners and Sentiments of a Man of Quality, as he really is; he is generous, liberal, loves Splendor and Pleaſures, but is not ſo much addicted to them as to neglect the Affairs of the Miniſtry. He is laborious, has a clear and quick Apprehenſion; a pleaſant, lively, and penetrating Fancy; and is no Enemy to Satyr, when it does not attack his Neighbour's Reputation. As he is of a beneficent Temper, he has Friends, and makes himſelf Creatures. Of all the Miniſters, he ſpeaks to the King with the greateſt Freedom; and I believe one may ſafely venture to put him in the Rank of Favourites.

The Baron *de Kniphauſen* *, Miniſter of State, and Commander of the Order of St. *John*, is deſcended of an illuſtrious Family in *Eaſt-Frieſland*. In the late King's time, his Father was Preſident of the Chamber, which is properly, Superintendant of the Finances. No Miniſter has been employed in more Embaſſies. He was the King's Reſident in *Spain*, with *Charles* III. the preſent Emperor; he was

* He fell into Diſgrace, after this Account of him was written, and died at his Commandery.

was the ſame in *Denmark*, *Muſcovy*, and *France*; and every where ſupported the Dignity of his Maſter, and the Honour of his Character. So many Embaſſies had very much diſconcerted his Affairs; and talking to me one day at *Paris* about his Lady, who was the Daughter of M. *d'Ilgen*, 'I know, 'ſaid he, that her Rank is not equal to mine, and 'that I may be reproach'd for having married her; 'but I can return the ſame Anſwer which they re-'port of the Count *de Lude* (Governor to *Gaſton* 'of *France*, *Lewis* XIIIth's Brother) who, when 'he was ruined like me, married a Tradeſman's 'Daughter; *Could I do better*, ſaid he, *when I was* 'perſecuted Day and Night by my Creditors, than to 'take Refuge in a Shop, rather than be carried to an 'Alms-Houſe?

M. *de Knipbauſen* has a wonderful natural Genius, and would have every Talent requiſite for a Miniſter, if he was not quite ſo averſe to Labour; but being as lazy as his Father-in-law is laborious, Affairs ſuffer in his hands by delay. Not but that he knows how to diſpatch them, if he will, for nobody is more lively nor more vigilant than he, when he ſets his heart upon a thing; but he is naturally indolent, being fond of his Eaſe and good Cheer.

The Baron *de Gobren*, who is Director of the Chamber of Finances, and of the Poſt-Office, is a Man of a good Family in the Marquiſate of *Brandenbourg*. He has not been many years in the Miniſtry, but has the Reputation of an upright Man, and one not to be corrupted. He is very reſerved, and a Perſon of few Words, which gives him an Air that thoſe who are not converſant with him miſtake for Haughtineſs.

M. *de Creutz* has a happy Phyſiognomy, being a mixture of hard Features with mild ones, that carry an Air of Probity and Frankneſs, which of all external Appearances is undoubtedly the moſt ad-

advantageous. He is polite, and magnificent; has an extraordinary Vivacity, an admirable Facility of expreſſing himſelf, and an eaſy, affable, and genteel Behaviour. He never promiſes but when he means to perform, and his Word may be ſafely depended on. I always found him very ſincere, and I cannot help ſaying, I love him. *Frederic-William* called him to his Councils, he having been his Secretary when he was Prince-Royal. His Aſſiduity and Punctuality in performing the Duties of his Office, had procured him the King's Affection to ſuch a degree that his Majeſty continues to honour him with his Good-will, and gives heed to his Repreſentations *.

M. *de Creutz* is one of the richeſt Subjects in the Country, having had a very great Eſtate by his Wife: She has alſo brought him a Daughter, an only Child, who is ſaid to have a great deal of Wit; and being a rich Heireſs into the bargain, ſhe will not fail of Suitors.

M. *de Vierec* is a Man of Quality, and a Native of *Mecklemburg*; his Father was Counſellor of State to the late King, and his Envoy-Extraordinary in *Denmark*. The Son, of whom I am now writing, quitted the Service of Duke *Anthony Ulric* of *Brunſwic-Wolfembuttle*, to be a Gentleman of the late King's Bed-chamber. When he came to Court, he had no Relations there, but he was ſo happy as to raiſe himſelf Friends; for his modeſt Air, and his polite and ſubmiſſive Deportment, gain'd him the Good-will of the Favourites; and as he lov'd Play, he ſoon made himſelf acquainted with the Court-

* M. *de Creutz* died the beginning of An. 1733, leaving only one Daughter, who is married to M. *de Hacke*, a Gentleman of a good Family, and his Majeſty's Aid-de-Camp and Favourite. This Marriage was ſolemnized with a great deal of Pomp, and honoured with the Preſence of their Majeſties, the whole Royal Family, and the Duke of *Lorrain*.

Court-Ladies, who always gave him their good Word.

In 1711, when the Count *de Dohna* went as the King's Ambaſſador to *Francfort*, for the Election of an Emperor, he deſir'd of the King that M. *de Vierec*, who was reckon'd the moſt ſober young Man at Court, might be Marſhal of the Embaſſy, which was perform'd at the King's Expence. M. *de Vierec* acquitted himſelf ſo well in that Employment that he had the ſame Poſt at the Congreſs of *Utrecht*. He had afterwards, for a while, the Care of the King's Affairs at the Court of *France*, when the Duke of *Orleans* was Regent; and at his Return from thence, he was employed in the Regency of *Cleves*; from whence he was call'd home to better Preferment, by means of *Gerſtorf*, whoſe Daughter he had married. For this General's only Son being killed in *Sicily*, his Majeſty, in order to comfort the Father, whom he lov'd, and who he ſaw took it very much to heart, declared M. *de Vierec* his Son-in-law, Miniſter of State. M. *de Gerſtorff*'s Daughter dying afterwards, M. *de Vierec* thereby came poſſeſſed of a very great Eſtate, and married again to the Daughter of the Count *de Finck*, who was formerly the Prince-Royal's Governor.

M. *de Vierec* is perfectly polite, and altogether as modeſt now as he was before he was a Miniſter; but he is cloſe and reſerv'd, myſterious more than needs muſt, and jealous. His Circumſpection, which extends to the minuteſt things, gave him the Air of a Miniſter, before he had a thought, perhaps, of ever being one. What with his Kindred, his Eſtate, and his Preferment, he is become powerful at Court.

Theſe, Sir, are the Perſons of the greateſt Conſequence at the Court of *Pruſſia*, with whom I had a particular Acquaintance. I am not ſo vain as to think I have painted them in their true Colours; but

but ſuch as they appear'd to be in my eyes, I have repreſented them to you. Men are not always the ſame; nor do they appear in the ſame light to all that ſee them; every Man having his own way of thinking, and few judging ſolidly.

I have now told you all the Particulars that I know of this Court. What remains for me is to mention ſome things to you, which are worth your ſeeing, if ever you live to come hither.

Such are the King's Cabinets of Medals and Antiquities; that of Natural Curioſities, in which are a great many things not to be ſeen elſewhere; the Chymical Laboratory, with its Furnaces and Inſtruments of a new Invention; the magnificent Theatre, which the King cauſed to be built for Anatomical Demonſtrations, with all the Curioſities and Inſtruments which are there kept; the Royal Library, one of the moſt valuable and compleat in all *Germany*, where, beſides ſcarce Books and Manuſcripts, is a very curious *Chineſe* Printing-Preſs.

All theſe things would be worth particularizing; but to do this, a Man muſt have a larger Acquaintance here than I pretend to: Beſides, my Relation is already ſpun to ſuch a length that I believe 'tis time to conclude it.

I will, however, juſt acquaint you of a Foundation by the preſent King, in favour of the young Gentlemen of his Dominions, which are the Academies of Cadets, in *Berlin*, *Magdebourg*, and other Towns, where they are taught the Rudiments of War; ſo that 'tis a Nurſery from whence the King makes a Draught of good Officers. His Majeſty has moreover ordered his Generals of Foot to take each a young Gentleman, whoſe Fortune does not happen to be equal to his Birth, to keep them as Pages, and to make them learn their Exerciſes, and every thing that an Officer ought to

know. An excellent Inſtitution this, and a fine Reſource for the poor Nobility!

I am preparing to ſet out forthwith for *Hamburgh*, *Hanover*, and the Court of *Brunſwic*; and after I have made that Tour, you ſhall have a ſecond Letter from me. Mean time, I am, *&c.*

LETTER II.

SIR, *Hamburgh, June* 20, 1729.

NOthing gives me greater pleaſure, than the Approbation with which you are pleaſed to honour the Account I ſent you of the Court of *Pruſſia*; which I eſteem as an infinite Reward for the little trouble it coſt me. You muſt not imagine that I can ever be weary of writing to you; I can never do any thing more agreeable to myſelf, than to contribute to your Amuſement; and ſhall think myſelf exceeding happy, if I can ſucceed.

I ſet out from *Berlin* upon the 10th of *June*, and in leſs than four Hours came to ORANJEBOURG, a royal Seat, which King *Frederic* I. cauſed to be built, and to which he gave the Name of *Oranjebourg*, to perpetuate the Memory of his Mother, who was born Princeſs of *Orange*. This Prince, great in every Action, ſpar'd no Coſt to render this Houſe worthy of his magnificent Taſte. The Situation of this Place is very charming, in the midſt of fine large Meadows, with Canals cut in them after the manner of *Holland*. The Apartments of the Pa-

lace are grand, tho' the rich Furniture it had formerly has been removed to *Berlin*. The preſent King not taking a fancy to it, all runs to ruin; the Gardens, which were the fineſt in *Germany*, are not kept in order; the great Veſſels of Porcellane, which were not to be match'd in *Europe*, the late King having procur'd the choiceſt Rarities of that Ware, that were in the Magazines of *Holland*; all theſe fine things, I ſay, are paſs'd into the hands of the King of *Poland*, at *Dreſden*. The Gallery and the Salon of *Oranjebourg*, which were furniſh'd with them, and which were reckoned among the Beauties of *Germany*, are of no account now but for the Richneſs of their Cielings.

From *Oranjebourg*, I went and lay at FERBELLIN, a Town which is only remarkable for a Victory gain'd here by the Elector *Frederic-William* over the *Swedes*. The latter enter'd his Dominions, while he was engag'd with his Army in defence of the Empire then attack'd by the *French* on the *Upper-Rhine*. The Elector being inform'd of the Invaſion of his own Country by the *Swedes*, came away from the *Rhine* with his Troops, and by one of the braveſt Marches that ever any General made, deliver'd it from the Enemy. He ſurprized them in *Ratenau*, a Town in the Marquiſate of *Brandenbourg*, the Garriſon of which he made Priſoners; and then continuing his March, he came up with the *Swedes* near *Ferbellin*, at a time when the latter thought him ſtill upon the *Rhine*, and gain'd a compleat Victory. A venerable old Gentleman, who was very near the Elector's Perſon at this Battle, told me, that before the Engagement began, the Prince being at the head of his Army, took out his Piſtols, fir'd them in the Air, and lifting up his Eyes to Heaven, ſaid, *'Tis to thy Glory*, GREAT GOD, *that I diſcharge my Arms; defend my Cauſe, thou knoweſt it to be juſt; puniſh my Enemies.*

nemies. Then drawing his Sword, and turning about to his Soldiers, *My Comrades,* ſaid he, *I deſire no other Defence, nor no other Weapons, but the Protection of God, your Courage, and my Sword. Follow me therefore, my Friends, do as I do, and be aſſur'd of Victory.*

In this Battle, *Forbenius,* the Elector's Gentleman of the Horſe, perceiving that a white Steed which his Maſter rode, made his Perſon a very plain Mark for his Enemy, ſo that they had ſingled him out to fire at, deſir'd the Prince to change Horſes with him. The Elector, who had a great Soul, above all Fear, refus'd at firſt to do ſo, but upon the repeated inſtances of *Forbenius,* he conſented to it; and the Moment that the Gentleman mounted the Horſe which the Elector quitted, a Cannon-Shot kill'd him dead upon the Place, ſo quick, that he expir'd without the Comfort of knowing that he had thereby preſerved the Life of his Maſter.

HAMBURGH, a Hanſe-Town in the Circle of Lower *Saxony,* is, without diſpute, one of the richeſt and moſt conſiderable Towns in all the Empire of *Germany.* It depends ſolely upon its Magiſtrates, who are choſe by the Burghers themſelves. Its Liberty has been often conteſted by the Kings of *Denmark,* who as Dukes of *Holſtein,* pretend that *Hamburgh* is built upon their Territory, and that therefore they ought to be the Sovereigns of it. The Electors of *Brandenbourg,* and the Princes of the Houſe of *Brunſwic,* always oppoſed the Incroachments of the *Danes*; nor will they ſuffer any Power whatſoever to oppreſs the City of *Hamburgh,* becauſe, if it were poſſible, they would be glad to annex it to their own Domains. The City being expoſed to theſe Attacks, has taken all the Meaſures poſſible to be in a condition to defend its Liberty. 'Tis very well fortified, maintains a good

Garriſon, and has an Arſenal provided with all Neceſſaries.

The Commerce of *Hamburgh* is conſiderable, tho' 'tis very much leſſen'd ſince *Frederic* IV. King of *Denmark*, prohibited the Importation of Merchandize from *Hamburgh* to his Dominions *.

The manner of living in this City is different from that of all the Hanſe Towns. Here is a tolerable Opera all the year round †; charming Walks, choice Company, much Viſiting, and hearty Cheer. There are ſeveral good Houſes of the Nobility, where Foreigners are well receiv'd. The Merchants are affable and civil; moſt of them in their youth travel to the moſt remarkable Countries of *Europe*, where they then paſs for Gentlemen of *Holſtein*. As they are rich, they can eaſily afford to make a good Appearance where-ever they come. There they learn that polite Air, and that Behaviour which one would wiſh to ſee in all Gentlemen of good Families. The only thing for which I find fault with them, is, that they treat their Wives too much like the *Levant* People, where the Women are only ſuffer'd to go to the Moſques; ſo here, the Women ſcarce go any where but to Church, or if they at any time take the Air, 'tis in company with their

* This Reſolution was taken by his Majeſty in 1725, on account of a Recoinage, which the *Hamburghers* thought neceſſary, partly in order to hinder their Silver from being carried out of their City to *Denmark*. This Diſpute had conſiderable Conſequences; ſo that the King of *Denmark* not being able to bring the *Hamburghers* to his Terms, puſh'd Matters ſo far as to fit out a couple of Frigats to cruiſe at the Mouth of the *Elbe*, which ſeized all Merchant Ships bound for that City. But in *March* 1736, the Affair was happily accommodated.

† It was ſet up, carried on, and directed by ſome of the Foreign Miniſters reſiding at *Hamburgh*, who had each his particular Province; ſo that M. *d'A*——— preſided at the Rehearſals, M. *de W*——— regulated the Dances, and M. *S*——— had the ordering of the Clothes, the Head-dreſſes, the Paint and the Patches of the Actreſſes.

their Huſbands: and a Foreigner is ſo ſeldom admitted to their Aſſemblies, that when he is, thoſe poor Women are as much aſtoniſh'd at the ſight of him, as a Sultana would be to ſee a Capuchin enter the *Seraglio*.

There's a great many worthy People here. I have made an Acquaintance with M. *de Brocks*, one of the Magiſtrates, who has acquir'd a Reputation for his Skill in Poetry, by ſuch Compoſitions as cannot but convince Foreigners, who underſtand the *High-Dutch*, that as good things may be ſaid in that Language, as in any other *. This M. *de Brocks* is of an amiable Character, civil, and complaiſant, and has acquir'd the Love and Eſteem of all that know him.

Moſt of the *European* Princes have Reſidents here, for which reaſon here are ſeveral Chappels of the *Roman* Catholicks, who otherwiſe would be obliged to go to the Church at *Altena*, as the *Calviniſts* are forc'd to do, the *Lutheran* being the Religion that is uppermoſt at *Hamburgh*; but the *Jews* have their Synagogues here. What an odd Eſtabliſhment is this in a Chriſtian Country! † how uncharitable, and even nonſenſical! and how muſt it make the *Turks* laugh! We grant Synagogues to the *Jews*, the Enemies of JESUS CHRIST, who would crucify him again, if they had not done it already; and we refuſe Churches and Temples to thoſe that believe as we do in JESUS CHRIST! No, were you to call me Heretic a thouſand times,

* This is what ſcarce any body has doubted of, but Pere *Bouhours*.

† The *Hamburghers* have nothing to fear from the *Jews*, with regard to their Republic, but they cannot ſo well truſt the turbulent and enterprizing Temper of the *Roman* Catholic Clergy, who aim at their Churches. The popular Commotions which are but too frequent at *Hamburgh*, would ſoon furniſh thoſe Gentlemen with an Opportunity to re-aſſert Claims which are incompatible with the preſent Liberty of the City.

I would ſay, HOLLAND FOR EVER! where 'tis a Maxim, to leave every Man to his Conſcience; and where they think it would be a Contradiction to admit People to be their Fellow-Citizens, and to deny them the Liberty of worſhipping God in their own way.

The Emperor's Miniſter, who has the Title of *His Imperial Majeſty's Plenipotentiary* to the Circle of Lower *Saxony*, commonly reſides at *Hamburgh*. The laſt Gentleman that had this Employment was the Count *de Metſch* *; and ſince his being made Vice-Preſident of the Emperor's *Aulic* Council, it has not been fill'd up †.

The Populace of *Hamburgh*, juſt ſuch another ungovernable Herd as the *Amſterdam* Mobs, having taken it into their heads ſome years ago, out of a mad ſort of Zeal for Religion, to plunder the Houſe and Chapel of the Emperor's Reſident; the City, in order to make Satisfaction for the Inſult, was condemned to build a Houſe which was to be the Reſidence of the Emperor's Miniſter always for the future. For this end, the City bought the Palace of the late Baron *de Gortz*, a Man of great Fame in the Hiſtory of *Charles* XII. King of *Sweden*; and whoſe Fortune and Cataſtrophe are worthy your notice.

Henry Baron *de Gortz* was born of an independent Family in *Franconia*, which is a Province that abounds with Nobility of Diſtinction. He enter'd young into the Service of the Duke of *Holſtein-Schleſwic*, and roſe to be his Miniſter. He was a Man generous,

* His Poſt of Plenipotentiary of the Circle of Lower *Saxony*, was conferr'd in 1733 upon the Count *de Seckendorf*, one of the Emperor's Lieutenant Generals; but the Functions of the Embaſſy are perform'd by the Baron *de Kurtzrok*, the Imperial Preſident.

† In 1734, he was inſtall'd Vice-Chancellor of the Empire, in the room of the Count *de Schonborn*, Biſhop of *Bamberg*, who reſign'd.

rous, noble, and magnificent, even to Profuſion; vigilant, full of Projects and Stratagems; a Man whom nothing could ſurprize, nothing diſſuade from a Deſign that he had once form'd; whoſe Ambition was boundleſs, and who always aim'd to do ſomething to be talk'd of. In the *North* there was no Intrigue in which he had not a hand, and into which he did not likewiſe draw his Maſter, whom he puſh'd upon Enterprizes ſo far above his Power to execute, that he thereby loſt his Dominions. The Baron *de Gertz* thought *Holſtein* too narrow a Sphere for him to move in, and therefore he attach'd himſelf to *Charles* XII. King of *Sweden*, after that Prince return'd from his long Stay at *Bender*. *Charles* was juſt ſuch a Maſter as the Baron wanted, and he juſt ſuch a Miniſter as was neceſſary for the King of *Sweden*; nor was there ever in the World a greater Sympathy between two Men. *Gertz* was born to form great Deſigns, *Charles* to put them in execution; and the conſtant deſign of both was only to throw *Europe* into a Ferment.

The Baron, beſides other happy Gifts of Nature, had the Talent of inſinuating and pleaſing. He ſoon got an Aſcendant over *Charles*, to ſuch a degree that, tho' this Prince was never to be advis'd by his Miniſters, yet the Baron's Opinion was a Law to him. *Gertz* frighten'd *Europe*, and made *Sweden* tremble; being as much fear'd and dreaded there as the King himſelf. The *Swedes* were uneaſy to ſee ſo great a Share of Authority veſted in a Foreigner; and therefore form'd Parties and Cabals to ſtrip him of it; but they durſt not diſcover their Deſigns. The Miniſter knew all the while they envy'd him, but was in no manner of Concern about it; for being ſure of the Favour of the King, he deſpiſed the Hatred,

and utter'd Cries that wou'd have almoſt pierc'd a Stone. The *Swedes* ſtood at the Barriers, with flaming Torches in their Hands, to ſee them paſs; and before the poor Inhabitants were all gone out, they enter'd the Town, and ſet fire to all parts of it; not ſparing even the Vaults of the Dead.

Never was a greater Deſolation known; but what compleated the Ruin of the *Altenois*, was the Neceſſity of the Times, which was ſuch as oblig'd the *Hamburghers* not to entertain them. Several prejudic'd Authors have ſaid that the *Hamburghers*, inſenſible, if not overjoy'd at the Calamity of their Neighbours, kept their Gates ſhut, that they might ſee them periſh. But the truth is, that the *Hamburghers* were oblig'd to be thus ſtrict; becauſe the Plague raging at that time in *Holſtein*, the Elector of *Hanover* had forc'd them to ſtop all Commerce with that Country; threatning them, that if he heard they had the leaſt Communication with *Altena*, he wou'd prohibit his Subjects from all manner of Correſpondence with the City of *Hamburgh*. Beſides, it wou'd not have been prudent in the *Hamburghers* to have open'd their Gates in the Night-time; for the *Swediſh* Army being ſo near, they cou'd not tell but the *Swedes* might come into the Town as well as the *Altenois*. To the Misfortune of the Times therefore muſt be aſcribed the Diſtreſs of the Inhabitants of *Altena*, moſt of whom periſhed with Cold, Want, and Deſpair.

Frederic IV. King of *Denmark*, being touched with Compaſſion for the Misfortune of his Subjects of *Altena*, relieved them as far as the Neceſſity of the Times wou'd give him leave. He caus'd them to be ſupply'd with Materials for rebuilding their Houſes; and now *Altena* has recovered her Loſſes: for the King of *Denmark* has not only granted it many new Privileges, but has caus'd a Harbour

to

to be made there; and does all that is in his power to draw a Trade to it. This City being a privileg'd Place for Bankrupts, many of that Character come from *Hamburgh* to ſettle here; and there is a general Toleration for thoſe of all Religions, who have their Churches and Temples here; which draws ſuch numbers of People, that in time *Altena* will probably become *Hamburgh*, and *Hamburgh Altena*: For the *Hamburghers*, on the contrary, will tolerate no Chriſtian Sects, tho' they grant the *Jews* the public Exerciſe of their Religion, as has been already obſerved. The Governour of *Daniſh Holſtein* reſides here, who is the Count *de Reventlau*, Brother to the * Queen of *Denmark*. I am, *&c.*

* Second Wife of King *Frederic* IV. who died in *October* 1730. Her being ſo much in favour with that Prince, was the cauſe of her Diſgrace after the Death of that Monarch; and ſhe retir'd to the Iſle of *Fuhnen*, where ſhe leads a very melancholly Life.

LET-

LETTER III.

SIR, *Hanover, July* 5, 1729.

THIS Letter is to acquaint you of ſome things that I remark'd in the Road from *Hamburgh*, and in this City itſelf; where I have now been theſe three Days.

I ſet out from *Hamburgh* the 22d of *June*, and went by Water to HARBOURG, having ſent my Chaiſe thither the Day before. This Town is a Dependant on the Dutchy of *Lunenbourg*, and belongs to the Elector of *Brunſwic-Lunenbourg*. It has nothing very remarkable but its Caſtle, which is a Pentagon, lin'd with a good Cover'd-Way. Madamoiſelle *d'Olbreuſe* *, whom the Duke of *Zell* marry'd, had the Title of Madame *de Harbourg*, till ſhe was recogniz'd by the Emperor a Princeſs of the Empire. For by the Laws of *Germany*, a Prince of a Sovereign Family can marry none but a Princeſs, or a Counteſs. If he weds a private Gentlewoman, he not only marries below himſelf, but his Wife does not go by his Name; and the Children of ſuch Marriage cannot ſucceed, unleſs the Emperor declare the Mother a Princeſs; as he commonly does in favour of Princes of antient Families.

Between *Harbourgh* and *Zell*, which is twelve Miles, there is ſcarce any thing but Heath. The Poſt-Stages, which are of four Miles, are very ill ſerv'd,

* She was called *Eleanor d'Emiers*, and was the Daughter of *Alexander d' Olbreuſe*, a Gentleman of *Poictou*.

ſerv'd, and the Inns the worſt in *Germany*; all which together, render the Road extremely diſagreeable.

ZELL is a little Town, with great Suburbs. All its Buildings are of Timber, except the Churches, the Caſtle, and the Houſe of Correction, which are of Brick. There is a Trade from hence to *Bremen*, by the River *Aller*.

After the Death of *George-William*, the laſt Duke of *Zell* *, this City, and its Dependency, the Dutchy of *Lunenbourg*, devolv'd to his Nephew *George*, Elector of *Brunſwic-Hanover*, afterwards King of *Great Britain*. This Prince had a Regency at *Zell*, which judged all Cauſes, without any Appeal but to the Council of State at *Hanover*. The Preſident of it at this time, is the Baron *de Frieſberg*, a Perſon of a good Family in the Country of *Hildeſheim*; who has been a long time the Elector's Envoy at the Diet of *Ratiſbon*, where I knew him, and received a world of Civilities from him. He is eſteem'd for the prudent Management of his Office, and his noble manner of living. There are a great many Perſons of Quality ſettled at *Zell*, who for a trifling Expence enjoy the Pleaſures of agreeable Society. They viſit and regale one another very much, and are not wanting in Civilities to Foreigners. Monſieur de *Schulenbourgh* †, Lieutenant-General of the *Hanoverian* Horſe, and Knight

* The Houſe of *Brunſwic* has for its head *Erneſt* of *Zell*, who by *Bernard* and *Albert* the Great, the Son of *Otho* the Infant, deſcended from the Familys of *Eſte* and *Witikind*. *George-William* Duke of *Zell*, was Grandſon to *William*, the ſecond Son of *Erneſt*; from whom came the two Branches of *Lunenbourg-Zell*, and *Lunenbourgh-Hanover*; both which were united in the ſingle Family of *Hanover*, by the Death of the Duke of *Zell*, who left no Iſſue beſides a Daughter married to his Couſin *George* I. King of *Great Britain*, as well as Elector of *Hanover*.

† Monſieur *de Schulenbourgh* died the beginning of the Year 1733.

Knight of the *Pruſſian* Order of the Black Eagle, is the Governour of this Town. He is a Gentleman of good Extraction, of Behaviour, Noble, Polite, and Eaſy; and though he is Father of a numerous Family, he affects to live grand, and keeps a very good Table. One of his Sons is in the Service of *Pruſſia*, the others are in that of the King of *England*. I mention them to you, becauſe they are worthy Gentlemen; and whoever knows them, cannot but eſteem them.

Here are a great many *French* People, *Catholick* as well as *Proteſtant*, of whom the former have a Chapel, and the latter a Church; but the Religion which is predominant, is the *Lutheran*. The laſt Dutcheſs of *Zell*, of the Family of *Olbreuſe*, being a *French* Woman, fill'd her Huſband's Court and Guards with her own Countrymen; who were even preferr'd before the Natives of *Zell*. I have been told that theſe *Frenchmen* really thought themſelves ſo much at home, that there happen'd to be one day no leſs than a dozen of 'em at Dinner at the Duke's Table, who all except the Prince were *Frenchmen*; which one of them obſerving, ſaid to the Duke, *My Lord, this is really very pleaſant; there is no Foreigner here but you!*

In the Neighbourhood of this Town there's the Caſtle of *Ahlen*, where, (about nine Years ago,) the unfortunate Daughter of the laſt Duke of *Zell*, by Madamoiſelle *d'Olbreuſe*, ended her Days, after ſhe had been retir'd thither about thirty ſix Years: She had been promiſed in Marriage to *Auguſtus-William*, the hereditary Prince of *Brunſwic-Lunenbourg-Wolfembuttle*; but her Father the Duke, by the Intrigues of the Princeſs *Sophia*, Dutcheſs of *Hanover*, marry'd her againſt her Will, and againſt the Conſent of her Mother, to the hereditary Prince *George-Lewis*, who was afterwards King of *Great Britain*, by Right of his Mother, and who died in

the

the Year 1727, as he came to make the Tour of his hereditary Dominions. She was ſixteen Years old at her Marriage to that Prince, who was then twenty two.

Tho' there's a good deal of Heath between *Zell* and *Hanover*, yet the Country is very well cultivated; for the Inhabitants not only make Turfs of the Heath for Fewel, but it ſerves alſo for Paſturage, and for Manure. 'Tis about five *German* Miles from one Town to the other, and I travell'd it in leſs than five Hours.

HANOVER, the Capital of the Electorate of *Brunſwic-Lunenbourg*, is bigger than *Zell*. The River *Leine* divides it into the old and new Towns, which are both encompaſs'd with Ramparts that ſcarce deſerve the Name. There is nothing very extraordinary in the Palace or Caſtle, which is rather commodious than magnificent; and the Town of *Hanover*, generally ſpeaking, is but ill built. The moſt remarkable Structure in it, is the *Roman Catholick* Church, which was granted to thoſe of that Communion by *Erneſt-Auguſtus* of *Brunſwic-Lunenbourg-Hanover*; that being one of the Conditions which the Emperor *Leopold* demanded of him when he honour'd him with the Electoral Dignity. That Prince moreover engag'd to admit of an Apoſtolical Vicar in his Dominions, and to give him leave to reſide at *Hanover*, as *Spiga*, who lately died at *Francfort* *, did for many Years. Divine Service is perform'd in this Church as regularly as in a Cathedral; and they who officiate in it are Miſſionaries. The number of Catholicks is very conſiderable; but few Perſons of Quality are

* Pope *Clement* XII. on his Acceſſion to the Pontificate appointed for his Succeſſor *Scharror*, Biſhop of *Helenopolis*, a Native of *Bonn*, in the Electorate of *Cologne*; a Prelate as amiable as venerable.

are of that Communion, the Nobility being all *Lutherans*.

When *George* I. King of *Great Britain* left his *German* Dominions, to take poſſeſſion of his Kingdom, he was willing that all Affairs at *Hanover* ſhou'd continue on the ſame footing as they were before he was called to the Throne; and he left behind him Prince *Frederic* his Grandſon, now Prince of *Wales*; who not only had a Drawing-Room every Day, but the ſame Attendance as had the Elector before he was King.

His Majeſty King *George* II. has made no Alteration in the Eſtabliſhment of the King his Father. When he ſent for the Prince of *Wales* to *England*, he order'd the Courtiers to continue their Aſſemblies at the Caſtle; and that his Table ſhou'd always be ſerv'd in the ſame manner as if he himſelf was at *Hanover*. His Majeſty keeps up the ſame number of Gentlemen, Pages, Domeſtics, and Guards; and the ſame number of Horſes, Grooms, *&c.* in his Stables. There's a *French* Comedy acted three times a Week at the Palace, to which all People are admitted *gratis*; and there are frequently Concerts, Balls, and Aſſemblies. The Gentlemen who do the Court Honours at theſe Entertainments, and who invite Perſons to dine or ſup at the King's Table, are either M. *de Hardenberg*, the Grand Marſhal, or, in his abſence, the Baron de *Gortz* *, Chief Steward of the Houſhold; or elſe M. *de Rheden*, the Great Cup-Bearer.

In the King's abſence, the Government is compos'd of a Council of State, whereof M. *de Hardenberg* is Chief or Preſident; which meets every day in an Apartment of the Caſtle. To this all the Courts of Juſtice in the Dominions of *Hanover* are ſubject, and accountable. The Council of

* He retir'd ſome Years ſince from Court, to his Eſtate at *Schlitz*, in *Franconia*.

of State receives its Orders immediately from the King; and they are counter-ſigned either by the Count *de Bothmar*, or by M. *de Hattorf*, the two *German* Miniſters that attend his Majeſty's Perſon.

The Count *de Bothmar* * is an old Gentleman, who for a long time reſided in quality of the Elector's Envoy at the Court of *England*, where, by his prudent Management for his Maſter, he cheriſhed the moſt inconteſtable Right that a Prince can poſſibly have to a Crown; I mean, the Voice of the People.

M. *de Hattorf* is not only the Miniſter's Son, but has been his Co-adjutor, for they had both the War-Office in their Province; for which reaſon they were called *Louvois* and *Barbeſieux*, a Compariſon which does no Diſhonour either to the one or to the other; for if the two *Hattorfs* have not made ſuch a Blaze in the World, 'tis becauſe they had not a *Lewis* XIV. for their Maſter, for they were not inferior to the *French* Miniſters in Capacity, and Application to Buſineſs, and had not their Pride and Arrogance.

M. *de Munchauſen* is one of thoſe Miniſters of State who bears the moſt Sway. He is of a Temper, beneficent, mild, civil, very candid, ſober, and religious. He lives with Dignity, and his Houſe is as open to Foreigners as any in the City.

The Marſhal Baron *de Bulau*, is Commander in chief of the Forces †. He has no manner of Dependance

* The Count *de Bothmar* died at *London* in the beginning of *An.* 1732, in a very advanc'd Age, and much lamented by all that knew him. The Baron *de Hattorf* ſucceeded him in the Miniſtry to the King as Elector.

† Since this was writtten, the continual Ailments and great Age of M. *de Bulau*, have obliged the King to make an Alteration in the Command of his Troops. M. *de Hardenberg*, a Knight of the *Teutonic* Order, is Commander in Chief of the Horſe, and M. *Melvil*, who is deſcended of a noble Family in

dance on the Council of State, and receives his Orders immediately from the King, by M. *de Hattorf* the Secretary at War. The Promotion which the King makes of Officers is by the Recommendation of M. *de Bulau*; and ſuch as would enter into the Service muſt make their Application to him. He ſerv'd with Diſtinction in the *Netherlands*, under my Lord Duke of *Marlborough*. He has actually under his Command 18000 Men, which is the Complement of the King of *Great-Britain*'s Forces, as Elector. His Majeſty indeed, keeps in pay 12000 *Heſſians*, * and 4000 Men of the Troops of *Wolfembuttle*. 'Tis true, thoſe Forces are paid by *England*, but to me it ſeems they are only to defend the King's Dominions in *Germany*.

Tho' the Sovereign is abſent, yet here are not wanting Amuſements; there being many good Families, and a number of amiable Perſons.

The lovely Counteſs of *Delitz*, Niece to the Dutcheſs of *Kendal*, cou'd not fail of Adorers, even in the moſt barbarous Countries; for the Charms of her Mind are not inferior to the Beauty, Sweetneſs, and Gracefulneſs of her Perſon.

No Lady can have a better Temper or Behaviour than the Baroneſs *de Bulau*, Daughter-in-law to the Marſhal, and Daughter to the late Counteſs of *Platen*: her Huſband is a worthy Gentleman, and keeps a very good houſe.

The Count *de Platen*, hereditary Poſt-Maſter-General, is one of the richeſt Subjects in the Electorate, and one that ſpends the moſt Money. A Foreigner will always have cauſe to ſpeak well of M. *de Rheden*, Captain of the Caſtle, and M. *de Wagenheim*, the great Cup-Bearer. Meſſieurs *d'Ilten* live

Scotland, has the Command of the Foot. They are both Officers of Reputation, and ſignaliz'd their Valour during the late Wars.

* Theſe auxiliary Forces have been of late years disbanded.

live ſplendidly; and both the Brothers, the eldeſt of whom is a Colonel of the Guards, are amiable and infinitely polite. If ever you come hither, you will certainly have reaſon to be fond of their Company.

The Situation of *Hanover* is very agreeable; and in its Neighbourhood are ſeveral pretty Seats. Among theſe, *Herenhauſen* (the Houſe of the *Lord*, or the *Maſter*) is a Caſtle which was built by Order of the Elector *Erneſt-Auguſtus*, the King's Grand-Father. This Houſe, to which a ſtrait Walk leads, bears no proportion to the Magnificence of its Gardens, which are undeniably ſome of the fineſt in all *Europe*; being particularly adorned with Water-Works that throw the Water up much higher than the famous Fountain at *St. Cloud*, which was always look'd upon as the moſt conſiderable of the kind *.

Between *Hanover* and *Herenhauſen*, there are two fine Seats; of which, one is call'd *Fantaſie*, i. e. *the Whim*; and the other, *Monbrillant*, or, *Mount-Pleaſant*. They were built by two Siſters-in-law, *viz.* Madame *de Kilmanſeck*, (who after her Huſband's Death, was by King *George* I. created Counteſs of *Arlington*) and the Counteſs of *Platen*. Theſe two Houſes are a Proof of the good Taſte of thoſe Ladies, who were really an Honour to *Germany*, for their Beauty, good Senſe, Manners, and Genius. They both dy'd in their Prime, a little time after one another; my Lady *Arlington* in *England*, and the Counteſs of *Platen* at *Hanover*, to which ſhe was not only an Ornament, but a Luſtre.

* Theſe Works were ſet up by the Direction of WM. BENSON, Eſq; who went over to *Hanover* for that purpoſe in 1716, was ſoon after made Surveyor-General of His Majeſty's Works in *England*, and is now one of the Auditors of the Impreſt.

The Dominions of *Hanover* are ſo conſiderable that I have been aſſured the Revenues are no leſs than ſix Millions of Crowns *per Ann.* Whether this be true, I do not know; but I tell you what I was told my ſelf.

Hamelen upon the *Weſer* is the only Town that can be reckon'd a Place of Defence. *Hanover*, *Zell*, and *Lunenbourg*, have Ramparts; *Harbourg*, a Caſtle, or Citadel; but all ſo inconſiderable, that they are not worth mentioning.

There are few Sovereigns whoſe Finances are in ſo good a Condition as this Elector's; which has been the happy Produce of three ſucceeding Reigns; and the good Oeconomy wherewith they were managed by the three laſt Princes of the Electoral Family, has contributed infinitely to the Figure it makes at this time. Mean while, notwithſtanding theſe Regulations, the People were never oppreſs'd, and the Princes always lived with a Splendor ſuitable to their Grandeur. *Erneſt-Auguſtus* obtained the Electoral Dignity, not without making great Preſents to the Court of *Vienna*, at a time too when his Power was limited to the Dutchy of *Hanover*, and the Biſhoprick of *Oſnabrug*. Tho' this Prince had a numerous Family to provide for, he lived with Splendor, was fond of Magnificence and Pleaſures, gallant, generous, and liberal; and when he dy'd, he left no Debts to pay, and his Finances were in a good State.

GEORGE I. his Son and Succeſſor kept up a conſiderable Body of Troops, and had a very ſplendid Court. As his Acquiſitions were great, he diſtributed his Favours wherever he was inform'd there was a Neceſſity; and when he came to the Throne, he made no Reform in this Court; ſo that their not ſeeing him was the only Token of his Abſence. At his Death, he left immenſe Sums in his Treaſury,

ſury, and ſo glorious a Character that his Subjects ſtill bleſs the Memory of his Reign.

GEORGE II. his Son, and the Heir of his Crown, his Dominions, and Virtues, behaves in the very ſame manner. While he lives and acts like a King, he neither gives, on the one hand, into the Extravagance of vain Pomp and Pageantry, nor on the other, into that ſordid Thriftineſs which debaſes Royal Majeſty, and extinguiſhes the Love of Subjects. He accumulates Treaſure without Oppreſſing his People, who love him, and offer up their Prayers for him, as I do for your Preſervation; and

Am, &c.

LETTER IV.

SIR, *Blanckenbourg, July* 30, 1729.

I WAS ſix Hours travelling from *Hanover* to BRUNSWIC, the Capital of the Dutchy of that Name, which is a very great City, with Houſes for the moſt part of Timber. It was formerly a Free and Imperial City, and one of the *Hanſe*-Towns; but falling under the Sovereignty of the Princes of the Houſe of *Brunſwic*, they reduced it to a level with the other Towns of their Dominions. It belongs to the Duke of *Brunſwic-Lunenbourg Wolfembuttle*. The Duke *Anthony-Ulric* began to fortify it; and his Son *Auguſtus-William*, the preſent Duke *, perfected

* He dy'd in *March*, 1731, without Iſſue by either of his three Wives; who were, 1. *Chriſtina-Sophia* of *Erunſwic*. 2.

fected what remained unfiniſh'd at his Father's Death, and made *Brunſwic* a Place which cannot be beſieged without a numerous Army: But then on the other hand, it would require ſuch an Army to gariſon it as the Duke could not furniſh without the help of his Neighbours, and which beſides, wou'd not perhaps be extraordinary convenient for him to introduce. The ſaid Duke has cauſed a new Palace to be built, which is large and magnificent, and the Furniture is rich, new, and excellently well choſen. Among the reſt, there are very fine Pictures, and a Cabinet full of Curioſities.

The Duke of *Blanckenbourg*, Brother to the Duke of *Wolfembuttle*, has a particular Palace, where he reſides in the Fair-time, but it did not appear to me to be a Houſe of any conſequence.

The Fairs at *Brunſwic* contribute very much to make it a rich and famous City, there being two held every Year, and a conſiderable Trade carried on at both.

There is very good Diverſion during theſe Fairs; for then all the Ducal Family is generally at *Brunſwic*; to which foreign Princes come often, and there is always a great Concourſe of the Nobility. The Duke ſends every Morning to invite the Quality of both Sexes, who at Noon repair to the Palace. The Grand-Marſhal, for avoiding all Diſputes about Precedency, cauſes the Ladies to be match'd with the Gentlemen by the drawing of Tickets; and ſometimes it happens that a Dutcheſs is

2. *Sophia-Amelia* of *Holſtein-Gottorp*, and 3. *Elizabeth-Sophia* of *Holſtein-Norbourg*, whom he left a Widow, after two Years Marriage. His Brother *Lewis-Rodolph*, Duke of *Brunſwic-Lunenbourg* and *Blanckenbourg*, ſucceeded him. He was born in 1671, and in 1690 married *Chriſtina-Louiſa* of *Oetingen*, by whom he had three Daughters; the eldeſt of whom was married to the Emperor *Charles* VI. the ſecond, to the *Czarowitz*, Son of *Peter* the Great; and the third, to the Duke *Ferdinand-Albert* of *Brunſwic-Lunenbourg* and *Bevern*.

is at the lower end of the Table, which is ſerved with very great Magnificence and Elegance. When there are too many Gueſts to ſit at one Table, the two Brothers keep each a ſeparate Table at his own Palace. At Night, the Company repairs to the *German* Opera, which being ended, they paſs into Rooms joining to the Theatre where they play, and ſup, and then dance. The Ball is open'd by the Gentleman who happened to draw the firſt Number in the Morning, and continues till Day-break.

The Ducal Family of *Brunſwic-Wolfembuttle* conſiſts now but of two Brothers; the eldeſt of whom, the Duke **Auguſtus-William*, has had three Wives, but no Iſſue. He is married to a Princeſs of *Holſtein-Norbourg*.

Theſe two Princes are ſo far advanced in Years that the Duke *Ferdinand-Albert* of *Brunſwic-Lunenbourg-Bevern*, Son-in-law to the Duke of *Blanckenbourg* †, is looked upon as their preſumptive Heir. *Europe* produces few Princes of more diſtinguiſhed Merit, who have equal Knowledge, more Learning, and Integrity, or more Valour and Experience in War. He has acquired a noble Reputation in *Hungary*; and he is not only a Brother-in-law of the Emperor, but one of his favourite Generals, and has a Regiment in his Service ‖.

* The Branch of *Brunſwic-Bevern* is deſcended from *Henry de Danneberg*, eldeſt Son of Duke *Erneſt*, Head of the *Brunſwic* Family. *Henry* left two Sons; the youngeſt of whom, *Auguſtus* of *Wolfembuttle*, had three Sons who form'd three Branches, *Brunſwic*, *Wolfembuttle*, and *Bevern*. The two firſt were united in *Anthony-Ulric*. *Ferdinand-Albert* I. Chief of the Line of *Bevern*, left five Sons and a Daughter. Three of his Sons are dead; of whom the Eldeſt loſt his life at the Battel of *Schellenburg*, in 1704: the Third died in 1706, when he was Provoſt of St. *Blaiſe* of *Brunſwic*; as did the Fifth alſo, in 1706, at the Battel of *Turin*. There remain two Sons, *viz.* Duke *Ferdinand-Albert* II. and Duke *Erneſt-Ferdinand*.

† See the foregoing Note.

‖ This Prince was Velt-Marſhal-General of the Emperor's Forces,

His Family conſiſts of four Sons and three Daughters * by his Wife *Antonietta-Amelia* of *Brunſwic-Blanckenbourg*. Theſe are very hopeful young Princes. The eldeſt, whoſe Name is *Charles* †, is of a lovely Make, and has Senſe infinitely beyond his Years. The eldeſt Princeſs, *Elizabeth-Chriſtina* ‖, at twelve Years of Age may paſs for one that is compleatly grown; her Air is noble and modeſt; her Features regular; in a word, ſhe is form'd to make that Prince happy who is one day to be her Huſband.

The Court of *Wolfembuttle* is numerous, and when aſſembled does not want for Magnificence.

The Miniſters of moſt Power are the Baron *Stein* **, and the Count *de Debn* ††. The former is

Forces, and in that Quality he commanded the Emperor's Army, in the War which *France* declared againſt his Imperial Majeſty in 1733. He acquired great Reputation at the Head of a very weak Army, by hindering the *French* from doing any thing more than taking Fort *Kehl* in the firſt Campaign, when the Emperor was ſurpriz'd and unprovided. At the Opening of the Campaign in 1734, this Prince oppos'd the Deſigns of the Marſhal *Berwick*, by Lines which he caſt up at *Muhlberg*, and which were of good Service to Prince *Eugene*, in facilitating his Retreat towards *Heilbron*, when he came to take upon him the Command of the Imperial Army. That great General own'd he never ſaw any thing look better, or that was ſtronger and better diſpoſed than thoſe Lines, which the Duke of *Bevern* had guarded till then, with an Army of not 25000 Men. His moſt Serene Highneſs was in 1734, declared by the Dyet of the Empire, Velt-Marſhal-General of the Armies of the Empire.

* He had fourteen Children, *viz.* ſeven Sons and ſeven Daughters, the laſt of whom was born in 1732.

† He marry'd *Philippina-Charlotte*, the King of *Pruſſia*'s third Daughter, in 1733.

‖ This Princeſs was marry'd to the Prince Royal of *Pruſſia*, in 1733.

** The Baron having quitted the Service of *Wolfembuttle*, is actually a Miniſter of State at *Hanover*.

†† The Count *de Debn*, after being diſgrac'd, went to *Denmark*, of which he already wore the Order of *Dannebrock*, and obtained the Title of one of the King's Counſellors of State.

From

is deſcended of an illuſtrious Family in *Swabia*: He was in the Service of the Landgrave of *Darmſtadt*, and his Envoy at the Dyet of *Ratiſbon*, and ſeveral Courts, where he made himſelf conſiderable by his Eloquence, the Juſtneſs of his Sentiments, by the Eaſe with which he expreſſes them, and by his Politeneſs.

The Count *de Debn* is a Native of *Mecklemburg*, where he was born of a good Family, and enter'd very young a Page to Duke *Anthony-Ulric* of *Brunſwic-Wolfembuttle*. He had the Happineſs to pleaſe that Prince, but much more his Succeſſor, the Duke *Auguſtus-William*, who of his Page, made him his Favourite and Miniſter, heaped Wealth and Honours upon him, and match'd him to the Daughter of his Chancellor, who was one of the richeſt Heireſſes in all *Germany*.

The young Miniſter finding himſelf rich and powerful, quickly thought the Court of *Wolfembuttle* too narrow a Stage for Action. He had choſe the Count *de Fleming*, Prime Miniſter of the King of *Poland*, for a Model. He ſaw that this Miniſter, under pretence of important Negociations, went to the chief Courts of the Empire to make a Parade of his Riches; and young *Debn* long'd with Impatience to imitate him. He procur'd himſelf to be nominated the Duke's Envoy Extraordinary to *Holland* and *France*, where he vy'd in every reſpect with the Ambaſſadors of the chief Crowns. In fine, after having ſtaid about eighteen Months at *Paris*, he went away very much lamented by the Merchants and Workmen with whom he had dealings. He came to *Wolfembuttle* to receive the Applauſes of his Maſter, and

From that time he ſtay'd at his Eſtate in the Country of *Wolfembuttle*, till the Year 1734, that the King of *Denmark* appointed him to go to *Peterſbourg*, to fill up the Poſt of his Envoy Extraordinary vacant by the Death of M. *Weſtphal*.

and to reſt himſelf after the Fatigues he had undergone in his important Negociations.

As Count *Fleming* was honoured with the Orders of *Denmark*, *Ruſſia*, and *Poland*, his Rival too thought he could not do without one Ribbon at leaſt; and thinking the Order of *Dannebrock* the moſt proper for him, becauſe it was White, he demanded and obtained it of *Frederic* IV. the King of *Denmark*. When he ſaw himſelf thus adorn'd, he procured himſelf to be ſent to *Vienna*. What buſineſs he had there, I know not; but he was ſcarce ever from the Emperor, and in order to be nearer to his Perſon, he lodged juſt by the Palace of the *Favorita*. He often relieved the Cares of the Miniſtry by making ſome Entertainment or Ball. He had an admirable Genius for Dancing, ſo that every body thought him the Inventor of Country-Dances. The Emperor gave him the Title of a Count, with which he returned to his own Court.

When Glory has once fir'd a noble Soul, nothing can keep it within Bounds. The Count *de Debn* had loſt his firſt Wife, who left him the Heir of three great Eſtates; and he married again to an amiable Lady, who return'd him Love for Love. Tho' he was dear to his Maſter, yet he could not reſolve to continue at *Wolfembuttle*, becauſe he had a Taſte for nothing but Treaties and Negociations. He returned a ſecond time, as Envoy Extraordinary to the *States-General*, but did not ſtay long at the *Hague*; for after having had his publick Audience, wherein he aſſured their High-Mightineſſes of the ſincere Affection of his Maſter for their Republic, and of his own perſonal Joy to find himſelf ſeated in an Arm-Chair in their Aſſembly, he went over to *England* to reſide at the Court of his *Britannic* Majeſty. He was admired for his Grandure, as much in *England* as elſewhere; but the Air of that Country not agreeing with the Delicacy of his Conſtitution,

ſtitution, he return'd to *Germany*; and, after having made a tour to the chief Courts of the Empire, he is come back to *Wolfembuttle*, where he ſtays in expectation that ſome great Event or other will turn up, that he may be employ'd in ſome remarkable Embaſſy, whereby *Europe*, attentive to every thing that relates to him, may have freſh Proofs of his great Talents.

The Baron *de Hagen* is Commander in Chief of the Duke's Troops, which actually amount to above 4000 Men, and 'tis ſaid, that his Highneſs's Revenues exceed two Millions of Crowns. His Subjects are not the worſt uſed of any in *Germany*. 'Tis a good fruitful Country; the Peaſants, who are ſober and laborious, are as clowniſh and as ſtupid as thoſe that herd with the Hogs in *Weſtphalia*; but they are robuſt, ſtrong, and good Soldiers.

In *Brunſwic* there is a Catholick Church which is ſmall, but neat. The Duke *Anthony-Ulric* caus'd it to be built at the time he embraced the Catholick Religion; which he did, after full Conviction, not many Years before his Death.

Saltzdahl, a Pleaſure-Houſe belonging to the Duke, is a League from *Brunſwic*, and from *Wolfembuttle*. It was built by Duke *Anthony-Ulric*, one of the moſt magnificent Princes of his Time, and one who had the moſt elegant Taſte. This Houſe is worthy of nice Obſervation. It has a great Gallery with a Collection of Pictures in it by the chief Painters, which is not to be met with elſewhere. In one great Cabinet there is very fine Porcellane; and in another, a vaſt number of Veſſels and Urns painted by *Raphael*. In ſhort, the Curious can't want here for Entertainment.

The Road from *Brunſwic* to WOLFEMBUTTLE is as pleaſant as moſt Roads. We croſs a little Wood through which there are ſeveral Routes cut, and as we

we come near the Town, ſeveral pretty Seats appear in view.

The Town of *Wolfembuttle* is not half ſo big as *Brunſwic*, nor is it better built, the Houſes being of Timber. The Fortifications ſeem to me to be in good Repair. The Caſtle, or Ducal Palace, is ancient, and makes no great Appearance, but 'tis commodious, and has good Lodging-Rooms. That which moſt deſerves the Attention of a Traveller, is the Library, which is one of the beſt choſen in *Europe*, and contains very ſcarce Books and Manuſcripts.

As I had left the Court at *Brunſwic* I did not ſtay many hours at *Wolfembuttle*, but came to lie here at BLANCKENBOURG, where I have all that Heart can wiſh for.

The Duke is as affable and as civil a Prince as any in the World. In his Youth he viſited the principal Courts of *Europe*, where he contracted a great Politeneſs, and a ſolid Taſte of Elegancy. He loves the *Belles Lettres*, protects the Arts and Sciences, and looks out for Men of Ability to ſerve him. He is magnificent, generous, a good Prince, and a kind Maſter. He was at one and the ſame time, the Father of an Empreſs, and the Grand-Father of an Emperor. As a Father, he has a conſiderable Penſion from the Emperor of *Germany*; and as a Grandfather, he has been honour'd with the Order of St. *Andrew* of *Muſcovy*, founded by *Peter* the Great, which is a Blue Ribbon, with St. *Andrew*'s Croſs appendant to it, enamell'd with Blue. This Prince is alſo a Commander of *Suplenbourg*, a Commandery of the Order of St. *John*, annexed to the Houſe of *Brunſwic*. He has had three Daughters by his Wife *Elizabeth-Chriſtina* of *Oetingen*.

The Dutcheſs, tho' advanc'd in Years, retains an Air of Grandeur and Majeſty which ſtrikes the Beholders, and her Features diſcover the Marks of that

that ſhining Beauty which ſhe had in her Youth. But what renders this Princeſs more venerable than even her Birth, is her ſolid Piety, her juſt Diſcernment, her lively Imagination, her noble and eaſy manner of expreſſing herſelf, and her Principles of Humanity, accompany'd with a Generoſity free from all Oſtentation.

I had the honour to pay my Duty to her at *Brunſwic*, ſome Years ago, when ſhe receiv'd me with ſuch Tokens of Goodneſs as rejoic'd my very Heart; and upon all Occaſions ſince, ſhe has been pleas'd to give me freſh Proofs of it. As I can be of no Service to this Princeſs in any Caſe, nor ſo happy as to be able to contribute to her Glory, 'tis my Ambition to make every one, and you, Sir, in particular, ſenſible of the Reſpect and Attachment with which I am devoted to her, and of the grateful Senſe I have of the Benevolence with which ſhe has honour'd me.

The Courtiers of *Blanckenbourg* are, like their Maſter, very polite. M. *de Munchauſen* is the chief of the Duke's Council, and was formerly in the Service of the Duke of *Wolfembuttle*. He is a Gentleman of great Learning, Labour, and Vigilance, and has a diſtinct and noble Manner of Delivery. He is heartily attach'd to his Maſter; and the Courtiers ſeem'd to me to have an Eſteem and Affection for him. Men of ſolid Judgment, and who have been more converſant with this Miniſter than I, have aſſured me that he is one of the greateſt Genius's at this preſent, in *Germany* *.

M. *de Sporck* is the Grand-Marſhal, which Employment he acquits himſelf in with very great Politeneſs and Care. He is come of a good Family, his Father

* Since the Duke ſucceeded his Father, M. *de Munchauſen* is become firſt Miniſter of State, and manages all the Branches of that Office with that Care and Juſtice which procure him univerſal Love and Eſteem.

Father being Miniſter of State, and Director of the Dutchies of *Zell* and *Lunenbourg*. M. *de Polentz* * does the Honours of the Court under him, in quality of Great Cup-Bearer. As he had his Education at Court, he is vaſtly polite; and Foreigners cannot but be pleas'd with his good Behaviour.

The Duke and Dutcheſs delight to ſee Foreigners at their Court, whom they load with Civilities, and will have them always to dine and ſup with their Highneſſes. After Dinner, they take the Air, or make Viſits; and in the Evening there's an Aſſembly in the Dutcheſs's Apartment, where they play, then ſup, and afterwards every one retires. We have had a Comedy twice or thrice, which is acted by the young People of the Family, who perform their Parts very well; eſpecially in the Tragedies of *Corneille* and *Racine*, tranſlated into *High-Dutch*.

The Pleaſures of the Carnival are more gay, at which time the Duke makes Entertainments: There's a Ball, Maſquerade, and Comedy at Court, every Day; and for the time there's ſo great a Concourſe of Strangers here from the neighbouring Towns, that ſometimes 'tis impoſſible to get a Lodging.

The Town of BLANCKENBOURG is ſmall, and the Houſes ill built, and inconvenient. The Duke has done all in his power to engage the Inhabitants to build; he has offer'd them Materials *gratis*, and has moreover endeavour'd to inſpire them with a Taſte for the Arts; but all without Succeſs.

I never, in my whole Life, ſaw People more indolent and clowniſh than thoſe of *Blanckenbourg*, and the neighbouring Towns. They are ſo bigotted to old Cuſtoms, that they ſay, *My Father liv'd ſo, and ſo will I; My Father did not do this, nor will I.* I can't conceive how People, ſo dull as they are, and ſo ſtrongly attach'd to the Inſtitutions of their Fore-

* He is at preſent Marſhal of the Court; M. *de Miltitz* is Great Cup-Bearer, and M. *de Roſſing* Great Huntſman.

Fore-fathers, came to give into *Luther*'s Reformation *.

Blanckenbourg is a petty County which Duke *Anthony-Ulric* yielded in his Life-time to his ſecond Son, to make him ſome ſort of Compenſation for the Right of Primogeniture, which he had newly introduc'd into his Family, to that Son's prejudice: For the Princes of *Brunſwic* had for a long time been us'd to a Partition of Lands in their Families. The *Hanover* Branch was the firſt that aboliſhed that Cuſtom, pernicious to great Families. Duke *Anthony Ulric* was only reſtrain'd from it by Pr. *Lewis*, his ſecond Son, whom he lov'd more than his eldeſt; and not caring to leave him without Dominions, to the Diſcretion of a Brother, he gave him Poſſeſſion of this State in his Life-time; becauſe he was of Opinion, that after his Death, his Will wou'd have the Fate of not being executed by his Succeſſor, according to the Cuſtom introduced among Sovereigns. With them 'tis a Right of Regale, but for us to do ſo, is a Crime.

As the County of *Blanckenbourg* does not give Admittance into the College of Princes at the Dyet of the Empire, ſo it does not give the Rank of a Sovereign Prince to the Perſon in poſſeſſion of it. The Duke, in order to procure himſelf both theſe Privileges, made a Treaty with the Elector of *Hanover*, whereby he got that Prince to yield him the Vote and Seat which he enjoy'd in the Dyet for his Dutchy of *Grubenhagen*: And the Duke, on his part, engag'd never to vote at the Dyet but in conformity to the Sentiments of the Elector. After his Deceaſe, or if he happens to ſucceed his Brother, the

* The reaſon is, perhaps, becauſe out of *their Attachment to old Cuſtoms*, they had the Curioſity to go a little higher back than their Fathers.

the Vote and Seſſion for *Grubenhagen* revert to the Elector *.

This, Sir, is all that I can ſay to you at preſent. Their Highneſſes being to ſet out in a few Days for *Oetingen*, where they uſe to go every Summer, I propoſe to go forthwith to *Leipſic* and *Dreſden*: And at the latter Place I hope to hear from you.

I am, *&c.*

LETTER V.

SIR, *Dreſden, Auguſt* 30. 1729.

FROM *Blanckenbourg* we have till'd Lands, and fruitful Fields; with Woods of Oak interſpers'd all the way, till we come to MAGDEBOURG, the Capital of a Dutchy of that Name, formerly an Archbiſhoprick, but ſeculariſed at the Treaty of *Weſtphalia*, in favour of the Houſe of *Brandenbourg*, to whom that Dutchy was yielded in exchange for their reſigning Hither *Pomerania* to *Sweden*. This City has for theſe two Cen-

* The Duke of *Blanckenbourg* being become Duke of *Wolfembuttle*, by the Death of his Brother, has ſcarce made any Alteration in his Court. The Perſons who were heretofore his Creatures and Favourites continue in the ſame Employments. The Dutcheſs Dowager remains at *Brunſwic*, in the fine Houſe which the late Duke caus'd to be built; and of which the ſaid Prince made a Preſent to her, with all its rich Furniture. This Princeſs is immenſely rich, and lives with very great Dignity. Her Steward is M. *de Wederkopf*, who was formerly Privy Counſellor to the King of *Denmark*, and his Envoy Extraordinary at the Court of *France*.

Centuries paſt, ſuffer'd very much. It was beſieg'd by the Emperor *Charles* V. who ſqueez'd conſiderable Sums from it. But it fared worſe in that unhappy War which divided *Germany* during the ſpace of 30 Years; for the Counts *de Tilly* and *Papenheim* commanding the Imperial Army in 1631, took it by Storm, put the Inhabitants to the Sword, and reduc'd the whole City almoſt to Aſhes. Nevertheleſs, 'tis ſince pretty well recover'd, and has ſome fine Houſes. The great Square before the King's Palace has few equal to it for its Extent, and for the fine Houſes that encompaſs it, which are all uniform, three Stories high, and were all raiſed in this Reign. In this ſame Square there's an Arſenal, which really is not ſo magnificent as that of *Berlin*, but may be rank'd among the chief Arſenals in *Europe*. This is a populous Town, and has a more flouriſhing Trade than any other City in the King of *Pruſſia*'s Dominions.

The great Church, which was formerly the Metropolitan, is antient, and one of the largeſt and moſt magnificent Buildings in *Germany*. It has ſtill ſome Reliques to ſhew, particularly the Baſin in which *Pilate* waſhed his Hands, after having paſs'd Sentence of Death upon our Saviour; the Lanthorn * which *Judas* made uſe of when he went to apprehend him; a Thorn of the Crown that was planted on his Head; and things of the like kind.

The Chapter of *Magdebourg* is ſtill, bating the change of Religion, on the ſame footing as before the Reformation. The Canons muſt all make Proof of their Nobility; tho' 'tis a *Punctilio* with which the King, who confers all the Prebends and Dignities of the Chapter, ſometimes diſpenſes. The preſent

* The Treaſury of St. *Dennis*, near *Paris*, boaſts alſo of this Lanthorn; ſo that *Judas* muſt have had at leaſt two Lanthorns.

ſent Provoſt is the Duke of *Saxe-Barbi*, who ſucceeded his Father in that Dignity, which brings him in 12000 Crowns a-year. He lives in a fine Houſe on the Great Square, fronting the Palace, built by the Order of King *Frederic* I. who alſo caus'd a Citadel to be erected here, on the other ſide of the *Elbe*, over which there is a Bridge. That King began likewiſe to fortify the Town; and King *Frederic-William*, who carried on, and finiſh'd the Fortifications, has now made *Magdebourg* one of the moſt important Places in *Europe*. M. *de Walrave*, Chief Engineer, had the Direction of thoſe Works, which are a Proof of his great Ability.

The Margrave *Albert* of *Brandenbourg* *, Brother to the late King *Frederic* I. is Governour of the Dutchy of *Magdebourg*; as is the Prince of *Anhalt-Deſſau* of the Town, where he has a numerous Garriſon under his command. The Arſenal, which is a fine Structure, and full of Cannon, and ſmall Arms, is worth ſeeing.

The King of *Pruſſia* having it much at heart to render *Magdebourg* a flouriſhing Town, has tranſferr'd the Regency of the Dutchy hither, which was heretofore at *Halle*; and for this reaſon there are ſeveral good Houſes in the Town. The Dutchy of *Magdebourg* is one of the beſt Provinces in the *Pruſſian* Dominions. It has a great Income from the *Elbe*, and the Salt-Works. The Catholicks are allowed a Toleration of their Religion in the Dutchy, and have Churches in the Town.

The Roads from *Magdebourg* to *Leipſic*, are ſo bad at this time, by reaſon of the Rains that have fallen for ſome Days paſt, that I have been three Days in getting from the one Town to the other. Indeed I went ſome Leagues out of my way, on purpoſe to ſee BARBI and COHTEN. The firſt of theſe Towns belongs to a Prince of the Houſe of *Saxony*,

* He died in 1731, as is before obſerved.

Saxony, of the Branch of *Weiſſenfeld*; and has nothing conſiderable but the Prince's Palace, which makes a good appearance, and has commodious Apartments, elegantly furniſhed. There is a Salon, and a Cloſet, the Cielings of which are painted by *Peine*, and not the worſt things he has done. The Palace has Gardens, delightfully ſituate by the ſide of the *Elbe*. The Duke *de Barbi* is the only Prince of the Houſe of *Saxony* who profeſſes the *Calviniſt* Religion, in which he was educated by his Father, who was at firſt a *Lutheran*. This Prince is a comely handſome young Man. He married *N. . . de Wirtemberg-Oels* *, but has no Children. He has been in the Service of *Pruſſia*, and is Grand Provoſt of the Chapter of *Magdebourg*, and Knight of the Order of the White Eagle of *Poland*.

COHTEN, which is bigger than *Barbi* by one half, belongs to a Prince of *Anhalt* †; the only one of his Branch, tho' he has had two Wives. I deſired leave to kiſs his Hand; but he excus'd himſelf, by pretending an Indiſpoſition. I have obſerved that petty Princes are always more difficult of Acceſs than great ones. The Town has no Fortifications; and I walk'd about a good while to ſee if there was any thing remarkable, but 'twas to no purpoſe; and I was oblig'd to confine myſelf to my Inn, which was one of the worſt in *Europe*.

LEIPSIC ſtands in a fruitful Plain. This City, ſo famous for its Fairs, and for its Univerſity, may

 juſtly

* Her Name is *Auguſta Louiſa*, ſhe was born the 11th of *January* 1698, and is the Daughter of *Chriſtian Ulric*, Duke of *Wirtemberg-Oels* and *Bernſtadt*, by his 3d Wife, *Sophia Wilhelmina*, of *Eaſt-Frieſland*.

† This is *Auguſtus-Lewis*, who in 1728, ſucceeded his Brother *Leopold*. His ſecond Wife *Emilia* of *Promnitz*, dying in 1732, he marry'd his Siſter *Ann Frederica* of *Promnitz*; which Match, at that time, made a very great Noiſe. The Curious are referr'd to a Paper call'd *le Glaneur*, or the Gleaner, publiſhed in 1733, for what was ſaid upon it. This Prince has had Children by his three Wives; and two Sons in particular by his ſecond.

juſtly paſs for the Jewel of the Electorate of *Saxony*; not only for the Beauty of its Structures, but for the conſiderable Revenue which it yields to its Sovereign, the King of *Poland*. 'Tis ſmall, and face'd with Ramparts, and a Ditch; but all theſe Fortifications are of little conſequence. Its Caſtle, or rather Citadel, which joins to the Town, is a Place of greater Importance. There is always a good Garriſon and Governour in it, who is at preſent General *Baumgarten*. As the Caſtle paſſes under the Denomination of the King's Houſe, the *Roman* Catholicks have had a Chapel there ever ſince *Auguſtus* II. embraced their Religion.

The Suburbs of *Leipſic* are very large. The City has four Gates newly built of Free-Stone, which are magnificent, tho' not according to the Rules of Architecture.

At each Gate they have newly ſet up a Mile-Poſt, ſuch as the *Romans* had formerly. There are the like Poſts at the Gates of all the Towns, and even at the Villages in the Electorate of *Saxony*. From hence they count the Leagues, which are divided at the end of every Quarter of a Mile, by other Poſts not ſo big, upon all the great Roads, ſhewing the Diſtances of the Places, and of the chief Towns; which is a mighty Convenience to Travellers, who were heretofore often impos'd upon by the Poſt-Maſters, as to the Length of the Roads.

The Houſes of *Leipſic* are large, very high, and ſubſtantially built of Free-Stone; and their being adorn'd with great fine Windows helps to ſet them off to the Eye. The Ground-Floors of moſt of the Houſes are Warehouſes, in which the foreign Merchants ſtore the Goods they ſell at the Fairs, which are three in number every Year, *viz.* at *New-year's-day*, *Eaſter*, and *Michaelmaſs*. The Concourſe of Foreigners here, at the Fair-Seaſon, is ſo great that 'tis often a hard matter to get a Lodg-

Lodging here for Love or Money. I myſelf ſaw in 1709, at the *New-year's* Fair, the late King of *Pruſſia*, the King and Queen of *Poland*, and 44 Princes or Princeſſes of Sovereign Families. The two Kings and the Queen lodged at the Houſe of *Appel*, a Merchant; where the King of *Poland* always reſides when he comes to *Leipſic*.

The Univerſity, formerly ſo famous, is very much decay'd: That of *Halle*, its Neighbour, and its Rival, in the King of *Pruſſia*'s Dominions, takes away a great many Students from it. They ſay that for ſome time paſt there have been more able Profeſſors at *Halle*, where beſides 'tis much cheaper living than at *Leipſic*; and where the Students are not ſuch Spendthrifts, nor ſo much addicted to Expence and Gallantry.

The Gardens of Meſſieurs *Appel* and *Poſe*, Merchants, in the Suburbs, are worth ſeeing. The firſt is large and magnificent: In the ſecond are very uncommon Plants, cultivated with very great Care. The Gardeners of *Leipſic*, who are reckon'd the beſt in all *Germany*, value themſelves upon forcing Nature; ſo that I have ſeen here, at *Eaſter* Fair, the Fruits, Flowers, and Pulſe, of all the Seaſons. The Aſparagus here is delicious, and extraordinary large. Another Nicety at *Leipſic*, is its Larks, which are ſent over all *Germany*; nay, to *Poland*, *Holland*, and *Denmark*. I was aſſured, but I will not vouch for the Truth of it, that the very Cuſtom-Duty paid for Larks at *Leipſic*, amounted to 12000 Crowns a-year; which Sum I thought the more conſiderable, becauſe I think I have heard it ſaid, that 60 Larks pay but a * Groſh the Duty; judge then how many there muſt be to make up the Sum of 12000 Crowns. But be it true or falſe, 'tis certain that there is not a Country in the World where theſe Birds are taken in ſuch quantities; for,

* 'Tis the 24th part of a Dollar, or about 2 *d.* ½. *Sterling*.

from *Michaelmaſs* to *Martinmaſs*, the Fields are cover'd with 'em.

Another Singularity is the Multitude of Nightingales, in the Woods near *Leipſic*; whereof they take great numbers, and keep them in Cages: The Innkeeper's Daughter, where I lodged, had ſeven of them; and I have ſeen a great many at other Houſes.

'Tis ſurprizing that ſo plentiful a Country as *Saxony* ſhou'd have no better Ordinarys. I don't mean *Leipſic* and *Dreſden*, where, conſidering one is in *Germany*, we come off pretty well; tho' were it ſo in *Holland*, the *Netherlands*, or in *France*, we ſhou'd not think ourſelves well us'd. I mean the little Towns and Villages in a Road ſo frequented as that from *Leipſic* to *Dreſden*. There's Proviſion to be had at theſe Ordinaries, but then 'tis ſo ill dreſs'd, and the Houſes ſo naſty, that 'tis enough to turn one's Stomach.

Setting out from *Leipſic*, at the opening of the Gates, I came betimes to WERMSTORF, or HUBERTSBOURG, (St. *Hubert*'s Palace,) a magnificent Hunting-Seat, which the Electoral Prince of *Saxony* is building at the Entrance of a Foreſt, where there are ſeveral Roads cut. This Houſe is five Miles from *Leipſic*, and eight from *Dreſden*; and when 'tis finiſhed, will be large and magnificent: Men are hard at work upon it, and the main Body of it is already compleated. Their Royal Highneſſes, the Prince and Princeſs, generally hunt here at Spring and Autumn. The Equipage for the Stag-hunting is very fine, the Liveries being Yellow, with Facings of blue Velvet, and Silver Lace at all the Seams.

After I had walk'd an Hour or two at *Hubertſbourg*, I proceeded on my Journey, and came to Dinner at MEISSEN, the Capital of *Miſnia*. This City has nothing particular, beſides its Manufacture

of

of Porcellane, which is ſo finely painted and enamell'd with Gold, that it is more beautiful than the Porcellane of *Japan*, and much dearer. The Invention of it is owing to an Alchymiſt, or one that pretended to be ſuch; who had perſuaded a great many People he cou'd make Gold. The King of *Poland* believ'd it as well as others, and to make ſure of his Perſon, caus'd him to be committed to the Caſtle of *Konigſtein*, three Miles from *Dreſden*. There, inſtead of making Gold, that ſolid precious Metal, which puts Mankind on committing ſo many Follies, he invented Brittle Porcellane; by which, in one ſenſe, he made Gold, becauſe the great Vent of that Ware brings a deal of Money into the Country.

After having paſs'd the *Elbe*, over a wooden Bridge, going out of *Meiſſen*, I came in leſs than three Hours to DRESDEN, the Capital of the Electorate of *Saxony*. The City is pretty large, fortify'd with Art and Regularity; and very lightſome. Its Houſes are high and ſubſtantial, the Streets broad, ſtrait, well pav'd, neat, and in the Night-time well lighted. There are great Squares in it; and the whole City is ſo well laid out that *Dreſden* may be rank'd among the fineſt in the World.

The *Elbe* divides it into two Parts; which are diſtinguiſhed by Old and New *Dreſden*, and join'd together by a Bridge of Stone.

In order to give you a more perfect Idea of this City, I ſhall point out to you ſuch things as I took moſt notice of. I ſhall begin with Old *Dreſden*, which is the firſt that we come to from *Meiſſen*. At the Entrance of the Town, on the right hand, there is a great Houſe, called the Palace of the *Indies*, or *Holland* Houſe, which the King bought ſome Years ago of his Prime Miniſter, the Marſhal Count *de Fleming*. All the Rooms of this Palace,

which conſiſts of three Stories, are ſo many Cloſets of *Japan* and *China* Wares. I don't believe that all the Warehouſes in *Amſterdam* put together, are capable of furniſhing ſuch a quantity of uncommon old Porcellane, as is to be found here. The value of it is computed at a Million of Crowns. The very Houſhold-Goods are *Indian*. There is one Set of Furniture, the like of which I never ſaw elſewhere: It conſiſts of Feathers of various Colours, and all natural; inlaid with ſo much Art, that it might be taken for a fine flower'd Sattin.

This magnificent Palace has a Garden belonging to it, which looks towards the *Elbe*. It is adorn'd with Statues of white Marble, which the King caus'd to be purchas'd at *Rome*, of the Cardinals *Annibal* and *Alexander Albani*, Nephews to *Clement* XI. Theſe Statues are much more priz'd here than they were at *Rome*.

Near the Palace of the *Indies* ſtands that of the Cadets; a magnificent Structure built by the States of *Saxony*, for maintaining two Companies of Cadets, all Gentlemen of the Country; who are there inſtructed in all the Sciences fitting for Perſons of Quality.

Farther up in the ſame Street, there is an Amphitheatre, or Area, for the Battles of wild Beaſts; of which a great number is kept for that purpoſe. Here are Lions, Tygers, Bears; in ſhort, all the fierceſt Animals from the four Quarters of the World.

The Bridge over the *Elbe*, which joins Old *Dreſden* to the New, is ſcarce to be parallell'd, either for its Length or Subſtance. It has lately been made broader by forming Demy-Arches which ſupport the Riders on each ſide. The Barriers are of Iron, well wrought. An Equeſtrian Statue of the King is going to be erected upon it.

The

The Palace or Caſtle joins to the Bridge, at the Entrance of New *Dreſden*. This is an ancient Structure, which makes but a mean Appearance; and 'tis ſaid, that the King intends it ſhall be pull'd down, and another built in its room; and that his Majeſty has ſet apart eight Millions of Crowns for the Expence of it.

The inſide of the Caſtle ſurpaſſes the outſide. The State-Room is ſplendidly furniſh'd. The Great Gallery contains ſeveral Curioſities, ſuch as antique Buſts, Veſſels, and Pictures.

This Palace has two Chapels, one of which belongs to the Roman Catholicks, and the other to the *Lutherans*. The firſt was heretofore the Theatre for Operas, but the King turn'd it into a Chapel, upon account of the Marriage of his only Son with the Archdutcheſs, eldeſt Daughter to the Emperor *Joſeph*; the ſecond was always the Chapel of the Electors of *Saxony*. The King might, if he pleas'd, have order'd Maſs to be celebrated in it, but he wou'd not give his Subjects that Handle for Complaint; beſides, the late Queen, his Wife, having always ſtuck to the *Lutheran* Religion, in which ſhe was born, he left her that Chapel for her uſe. The Treaſure of it is extremely rich, and contains Veſſels, Chaſubles, and other things heretofore conſecrated and given to this Chapel by the Piety of the Electors.

The Royal Treaſury, commonly call'd the *Grune Gewölbe*, (the Green Vault,) is in the Palace. They are three arch'd Rooms, which contain immenſe Riches, and ſhine all over with Gold, Precious Stones, and Diamonds. 'Tis one of the fineſt Places in the World. There are ſeveral Sets of Brilliant Diamonds, Rubies, Emeralds, Pearls, Saphirs, and other Precious Stones. Every Set is compleat, and conſiſts of Buttons for Clothes, Loops for Hats, Swords, Hangers, Canes, Sleeve-Buttons,

tons, Shoe-Buckles, Muffs, and Sword-Belts, Snuff-Boxes, Watches, Tweezer-Caſes, Pocket-Books; in ſhort, all the Jewels that can poſſibly be imagin'd, even to the Furniture of a Horſe; ſo that were I to write down every Particular, I ſhou'd furniſh you a Volume. And they all look the better, for being ranged with wonderful Nicety in Caſes of Cryſtal.

To the Caſtle belongs a Garden, call'd the *Zwinger Garten*, which is the *Tuilleries* of *Dreſden*, but not extenſive enough to deſerve the Name of a Garden. 'Tis encompaſs'd with Buildings of Free-Stone, which are Green-Houſes for Orange-Trees. The Structure conſiſts but of one Floor, on which are rais'd ſix large Pavilions, *viz.* three in front at the Entrance, two on the ſides, and one over the Portico at the Entrance; which have all a Communication with one another, by a Platform that has Baluſtrades adorn'd with Statues. It wou'd be hard to ſay what Order of Architecture prevails moſt in this Edifice, the Carv'd-Work with which it is decorated, being more of the *Gothic* than the modern Taſte.

Near to this Building there's a Palace which makes a great Shew, but the Apartments are by much too ſmall, and too low for the Ornaments employ'd about them. The King caus'd this Houſe to be built for the Counteſs *de Coſel*, at the time when that Lady was in high Favour. No Coſt was ſpar'd in it; but 'tis pity that a more ſkilful Architect had not been pitched upon to conduct it.

There are five or ſix other Houſes, which are here call'd *Hotels*, but in *Italy* wou'd certainly paſs for Palaces. The Hotel *de Fubl* in the Street of *Pirnitz* is one of this number. It was erected by the Great Marſhal *de Fubl* who on his Death-bed left it to his Wife, of whom it was purchas'd by the Count *de Fleming*. That Miniſter ſold it ſoon after

after to the King, who made conſiderable Embelifhments in it, and furniſhed it richly. In this Condition his Majeſty gave it in 1728, to the Marſhal *de Wackerbarth*, to make him amends when he had been burnt out of the Houſe he liv'd in, as Governour of *Dreſden*. After this, the Governour's Houſe being rebuilt, the King bought the other Houſe again of the Count *de Wackerbarth*, and has made it a Depoſitary of his Medals, Antiquities, and Curioſities.

To be ſure you have heard that this Fire broke out at the Governour's Houſe in the Night-time, while the King of *Pruſſia* was here. His Majeſty actually lodg'd at the Governour's Houſe; and was in Bed when the Fire burſt out with ſuch fury that he had but juſt time to make his Eſcape in his Night-Gown, and to ſave a little Box in which there were Papers of conſequence; for the Floor of his Bed-Chamber fell in, the moment after the King was gone out of it. An Officer, his Wife, and her Maid-Servant, periſhed in the Flames. The Count *de Wackerbarth* only ſav'd his Wardrobe and his Plate; for his fine Library, and a noble Collection which he had of Drawings, one of the compleateſt and beſt choſen Setts in *Europe*, were conſumed.

The Hotel of *Hoyhm* is the moſt conſiderable Building in *Dreſden*. In about ſix Years time it had four different Owners. It was founded by the King's Favourite, the Count *de Fitztuhm* *, his Great Chamberlain, and Miniſter of State; who having been kill'd in a Duel at *Warſaw*, by the Count *de St.*

* He had been in the King's Service ever ſince he was only Prince of *Saxony*, and always took care to keep in Favour; he being, of all the Favourites, the Perſon that had the greateſt Share of the Prince's Confidence: Nevertheleſs, he ow'd his Advancement, and his illuſtrious Poſt of Miniſter of the Cabinet, to the Intereſt of the Counteſs *de Coſel*, who caus'd the Chancellor *Beichling*, who had always been the Favourite Miniſter, to be turn'd out.

St. Gilles, a *Piedmonteſe* that came to *Poland* to ſeek his Fortune, his Widow ſold it to Marſhal *Fleming*, who dying at *Vienna* not long after he had purchaſed it, the Houſe fell to his Son, a weakly Child, who did not long ſurvive him. His Mother, who was a *Radzivil*, was his Heireſs, and one of the greateſt Matches in *Europe*. She was ſoon after married again to a *Polander* whom ſhe follow'd into his own Country; and when ſhe left *Dreſden*, ſhe ſold her Houſe to the Count *de Hoym*, who at preſent occupies it.

Not far from this Houſe are the King's Stables, which are well worth ſeeing, there being a great number of wonderful fine Horſes, and ſome of all ſorts of the rareſt Breeds. Over the Stables, are Rooms full of fine Equipage, conſiſting of ſumptuous Saddles and Houſings, Sleds and magnificent Harneſs. Many of theſe Equipages are of the *Turkiſh* Mode, and plated with maſſy Silver, adorn'd with precious Stones.

The Arſenal, which is much boaſted of here, cannot be reckon'd a fine one by any but ſuch as have not ſeen the Arſenal of *Berlin*, to which it is not to be compar'd. There are ſeveral Rooms in it full of Arms, Braſs Cannon, Helmets, and Cuiraſſes, which are the Tapeſtry of Arſenals.

Thus, Sir, you have all that I obſerved in *Dreſden*: it remains for me to give you ſome Account of its Suburbs, and of the Pleaſure-Houſes which the King has in the Neighbourhood of this City.

The Suburbs of *Dreſden* are very extenſive, but have no Building of conſequence, except the Palace in the King's great Garden, built by his Majeſty's Mother, and that called the *Turkiſh* Palace, becauſe it is furniſhed entirely after the *Turkiſh* manner. The King gave an Entertainment at this Palace to the Princeſs his Daughter-in-law, on account of her

her Arrival at *Dreſden*, which was ſo particular that I think it deſerves a Digreſſion.

Upon the Feaſt-Day, the whole Court appeared at the *Turkiſh* Palace, in the Habits of *Turks*. The King came in the Dreſs of a *Sultan*, but without any Attendance. His Majeſty was ſoon after follow'd by the Princeſs his Daughter-in-law, with her Ladies. Her Royal Highneſs, for whom the Entertainment was made, found a Body of Janizaries drawn up in the Court-Yard of the Palace. The King receiv'd her at the Entrance of his Apartment, and conducted her into a Hall ſpread with fine Tapeſtry, and laid with Cuſhions richly embroider'd.

The King and Princeſs being ſeated, were ſerved by twenty four Negroes in ſumptuous Dreſſes, with Sherbet, Coffee, and Sweet-Meats, in great Veſſels of maſſy Silver; nor were ſcented Waters, and perfumed Handkerchiefs forgot. After this Collation, they drew near the Windows to ſee the *Pillau* (which is the Rice of *Turky*) and the King's Bounty-Money diſtributed to the Janizaries. This was follow'd by a Comedy, with an Entertainment of *Turkiſh* Dances. Then came the Supper, the Gueſts ſitting croſs-legg'd upon the Cuſhions, and the Courſes being ſerved up after the faſhion of *Turky*, by the Negroes and young *Turks*. While they were at Table, the Company was diverted by the various Leaps and Poſtures of certain Tumblers and Rope-Dancers. Supper being over, they went into the Garden, which was illuminated with ſeveral Thouſands of Cryſtal Lamps. There was Tilting, and ſhooting at the Mark, and whenever the Mark was hit, a Sky-Rocket was ſent up, which for the time ſeem'd to ſprinkle Thouſands of Stars among thoſe in the Firmament. After this, the Company retir'd into the Palace, where the King and the Princeſs open'd the Ball, and there was dancing till five o' clock in the

the Morning, when the Ball was concluded with a ſumptuous Breakfaſt that was ſerv'd at the ſeveral Tables, after the manner of our own Country; which, with the leave of the *Muſſulmen*, is as good as theirs.

The fineſt Royal Houſes, are *Pilnitz* and *Moritzbourg*. The King, who is certainly of all Sovereigns the moſt magnificent, keeps Men continually at work, in embelliſhing thoſe Places. The Works are carried on by the Direction of Monſ. *Bot*, whom I think to be not inferior to *Bernini*, and I doubt not, ſuch is my high Idea of him, that as he is ſupported by the Generoſity of a Great King, he will accompliſh ſuch Works as are worthy of himſelf, and of his Maſter too.

I have now done with the Deſcription of the Palaces and Royal Houſes, in which, I own I have been defective, and wou'd gladly have been excus'd from giving it; but you wou'd have it, and I cou'd not help gratifying you. I paſs now to ſomething more important; and ſhall entertain you with the preſent State of the Royal Family, and the Characters of the moſt diſtinguiſhed Perſons at Court.

FREDERIC-AUGUSTUS II. King of *Poland*, and Elector of *Saxony*, is the Chief of this Auguſt Family. This Monarch, whom no Man ſurpaſſes in Strength and Dexterity, and whom few Princes equal in Generoſity, is the ſecond Son of *John George* III. Elector of *Saxony*. He ſucceeded his Brother *John George* IV. in the Electorate, and was choſe King of *Poland* after the Death of the Great *Sobieſki*, notwithſtanding the Intrigues of the Emiſſaries of *France* who declared for the Prince of *Conti*.

When *Frederic-Auguſtus* aſcended the Throne, he brought all the Virtues to it fitting for a Great King. The Agreeableneſs of his Perſon, his Majeſtic Air, his heroic Strength, his Good-Nature, his Politeneſs, and his well-known Valour, were the

the leaſt of his Qualities. Never was any Prince more magnificent, nor did any one either give more, or with better Grace. As a General and a Stateſman, he was never too much lifted up by Proſperity, nor ſhock'd by Adverſity; ſo that he was obſerved, when in the Depth of his Misfortunes, to act and treat, even with his Enemies, with that Air of Complaiſance and Satisfaction, which Men inur'd to great Affairs know how to aſſume, in the midſt of the cruelleſt Mortifications. This Prince, in his Youth, travelled to the chief Countries of *Europe*, and wherever he came, was admir'd for his Strength, his Air, and Dexterity. Amongſt other Adventures, a very odd one befel him in his Travels, at *Venice*. There happen'd to be in that City a famous Aſtrologer, who had the Reputation of being well read in the Book of Fate. The King, who was only Prince at that time, had a mind that he ſhould calculate his Nativity, and for that purpoſe went to the Aſtrologer's Houſe, accompanied by two Gentlemen. They were all three dreſs'd in plain Apparel, and the Prince, to diſguiſe himſelf ſtill the more, had concealed his brown Hair under a fair Peruke. He enter'd the laſt Man, into the Aſtrologer's Houſe, and ſeem'd to be rather as an Attendant, than a Companion of the others. But to him the Aſtrologer firſt addreſs'd himſelf, calling him by the Titles of *My Lord*, and *Highneſs*. The Prince told him that his Rank in the World was much too mean for ſuch high Compliments; but the Aſtrologer made anſwer, he knew very well whom he ſpoke to, and that it was in vain for him to think of concealing himſelf from ſuch a Man as he. The Prince and his ſmall Retinue were then conducted by him into a Cloſet, where he ſhewed him a Looking-Glaſs. *Caſt your Eye on that Mirror*, ſaid he to the Prince, *and there you will ſee the principal Events of your Life*. The Prince without any

any ſcruple, look'd accordingly, and ſaw himſelf at firſt in the Habit of an Elector; afterwards, with a Crown on his Head, and a royal Mantle on his Shoulders; and at laſt, full of Wounds, and bath'd in his Blood.

This Story, which I ſhou'd not give you for true, if I had not heard it from a great Nobleman who told me he had it from the King's own Mouth, is however, not without a Parallel; for it is pretended, that a Maſon told Madam *de Maintenon*, when ſhe was no more than Madam *Scarron*, what her Fortune and Rank would be in *France*. I could mention ſeveral other Inſtances to you of the ſame nature, which all ſurprize me, tho' they don't convince me. Be it as it will, two Articles of the Prediction made to the King of *Poland* are fully accompliſhed; as to the third, may Heaven confound the Aſtrologer *.

The King of *Poland* ſpends part of his time in his Kingdom, and part of it in his Electorate. 'Tis true, that he ſeems to take more delight in *Saxony* than in *Poland*; and 'tis in my Opinion, very natural for him to do ſo; *Saxony* being his hereditary Country,

* This part of the Prophecy did not take place, for the King of *Poland* died in his Bed at *Warſaw* the 1ſt of *Feb.* 1733, N. S. This Monarch ſet out in the Month of *January*, from *Dreſden*, to hold the Dyet of *Poland*, which was open'd at *Warſaw*, and every thing ſeem'd like to paſs to the Satisfaction of the King and Kingdom, when theſe fine Hopes were demoliſhed by the Death of this Prince, who in his laſt Sickneſs, preſerved the Character of the Hero, betraying neither Fear nor Folly; all his Wiſh being that he might live to embrace his Son.

The King found himſelf in a declining State, ſeveral Years. During the laſt Dyet at *Grodno*, a Mortification ſeiz'd his Foot; for which reaſon, M. *de Petit*, a Surgeon of *Paris*, whom the King ſent for on purpoſe, cut off two Toes, and ſet his Majeſty upon his Legs again, but told him withal, he muſt obſerve ſuch a Regimen as he preſcribed to him, or elſe it would break out again. But the King finding himſelf better, neglected *Petit*'s Advice, and died of the Mortification, as the Surgeon had foretold.

Country, where he is ſo abſolute that his Will is the Law of his Subjects, by whom he is rather ador'd than belov'd: beſides, 'tis *Saxony* that furniſhes him wherewithal to ſupport his Dignity, and offers him every thing conducive to the Pleaſures of a Great King; and it is there that he has a Court, the moſt brilliant in *Europe*, not only for its Splendor, but for Magnificence and Pleaſures; whereas in *Poland*, he has only the vain Pageantry of Royalty; being under greater Limitations than any Sovereign in the World; ſo that the leaſt Innovation, the leaſt Act of Authority, makes the *Poles* clamorous, and they preſently think they are excuſed from paying him that Obedience which they owe him. All the Gentlemen here are their own Maſters; and the Noblemen behave ſo much like Sovereigns, that they never go to Court but to demand Favours, which if they obtain, they go away ungrateful, and if they are deny'd, they retire with the Intention of taking a Revenge on the firſt Opportunity: For the Climate being rough, the People are fierce; and the King, tho' adored in *Saxony*, is ſcarce beloved in *Poland*.

The Electoral Prince, this King's only Son, is luſty, proper, and well made, and like the King his Father is adroit in all bodily Exerciſes. He loves Pleaſure, but 'tis with Moderation, and is heartily attach'd to the Religion which he has embrac'd. He is ſtiff and reſerved, without being haughty, which is a Temper that he derives from the late Queen his Mother *, whom he very much reſembles. To ſuch as have the Honour of Acceſs to him, and of being known to him, he is gracious, familiar and very civil. His Royal Highneſs has been admir'd for his good Qualities in a great

* *Eberhardina* of *Brandenbourg-Bareith* Queen of *Poland*, and Electoreſs of *Saxony*: ſhe died at her Seat at *Pretſh* near *Wittenberg*, ſome Years before the King.

part of *Europe*, particularly in *Germany*, *France* and *Italy*, where he has ſpent ſeveral Years. No Son can have more reſpect to a Parent than he has for the King his Father, whoſe Will and Pleaſure he never oppos'd in any one Inſtance; and whoſe Perſon he has always honour'd even in his Miniſters. Of all Pleaſures he ſeems to beſtow moſt Time in Hunting; nevertheleſs he makes it only as an Amuſement without being paſſionately fond of it. His Royal Highneſs's Confident is *Solckoſſki* or *Sulkowſki**, a *Poliſh* Gentleman who was once his Page; and by thus making him his Favourite, for which he cannot but be applauded, he ſhews that he is capable of diſtinguiſhing true Merit. I had frequently the Honour of making my Compliments to this Prince while he was at *Paris*, and this is now the ſecond time that I have had the ſame favour at *Dreſden*, where I find he is the ſame gracious Perſonage as ever. The laſt time that I had the Honour of being introduc'd to him he talk'd a great deal to me about *Paris*, and when he diſmiſs'd me, he ſaid he was ſorry to think that *Dreſden* wou'd not afford me ſo many Pleaſures as *Paris*.

The ſame Day that I waited on the Prince, I was introduced to the Princeſs his Royal Highneſs's Conſort, who is the late Emperor *Joſeph*'s eldeſt Daughter. The Voice of the People is unanimous in the Character of this Princeſs. All Mankind agrees that ſhe has not her ſuperior for Good-nature, Piety, Charity, Modeſty, and in a word for all, the Virtue of the Soul: To pleaſe her Huſband, and to give her Children an Education ſuitable to their Birth, is her principal endeavour. 'Tis rare to find a happier Couple than their Royal Highneſſes; for Marriage, which generally cools the warmeſt Paſſions, ſeems on the contrary to have animated their reci-

* This Prince ſucceeding his Father in the Electorate, and afterwards in the Throne of *Poland*, rais'd M. *Solckoſſki* to the Dignity of a Count, and appointed him his Maſter of the Horſe, and one of his Cabinet Miniſters.

reciprocal Affection to ſuch a degree that they are a Pattern for the Imitation of their Court.

Their Royal Highneſſes Children are ſo young that I ſhall ſay but little of them *. Their eldeſt Son very much reſembles the Pictures that I have ſeen of the Emperor *Joſeph* when he was a Child. This young Prince ſeems to me to be of a very delicate Conſtitution, and has ſo great a weakneſs in his Knees that he can ſcarce ſtand: The Phyſicians ſay it will go off as he grows up, but their Promiſes are no Goſpel for me.

The two Princes of the Blood, who commonly reſide at *Dreſden*, are *John Adolphus* of *Saxe-Weiſſenfels* †, a Prince of uncommon Merit, whoſe Sentiments and Actions are no diſparagement to his Birth; and *Maurice William* of *Saxe-Zeits*, the laſt of his Branch. He was perſuaded by his Uncle the late Cardinal *de Saxe Zeits* to abjure the *Lutheran* Religion and to embrace the eccleſiaſtical State: He is Biſhop of *Konigſgratz* in *Bohemia*, Provoſt of *Alten Ottingen* in *Bavaria*, and a Canon of *Cologne Liege*, and *Aichſtedt*, and is deſcended from ſuch a Family that it may be preſum'd, he will ſome day or other, be advanc'd to the Purple ‖

N. B. *What follows, is a more particular Account of the Electoral Family of* Saxony, *tranſlated from the Baron's State of it; which is prefix'd to the ſecond Edition of theſe* Memoirs.

Auguſtus III. King of *Poland* Great Duke of *Lithuania* and Elector of *Saxony*, was born the ſeventh of *October* 1696. He is the only Son of *Auguſtus* II. the laſt King of *Poland* and of *Eberhardina* of *Brandenbourg-Bareith*. His Grandmother, *Anne*

* The Electoral Prince (now Elector of *Saxony* and King of *Poland*) has eight Children, *viz.* three Princes and five Princeſſes; ſo that the Electoral Branch is not like to be extinct very ſoon.

† The Velt-Marſhal the Count de *Wackerbarth* being dead, the Elector nam'd this Prince Generaliſſimo of the Troops of the Electorate in 1734.

‖ This Prince has for ſome time paſt reſided at *Konigſgratz*.

Princeſs Royal of *Denmark*, Widow of *John George* the third Elector of *Saxony*, took care of him in his Infancy, and impreſs'd him with thoſe Sentiments of Piety, Humanity and Juſtice, which render him at this day the Darling of his People, and the Pattern of Kings.

At a proper Age, the King his Father took him out of the hands of the Women, and committed him to the Care of Monſieur *de Miltitz*, a Gentleman of a good Family; whom Learning, good Behaviour and ſolid Virtue render'd worthy of ſuch an Employment.

The Prince, who always found Charms in Virtue, was ſenſible of the Merit of his Governor: He lov'd him, was inſeparable from him, and receiv'd his Advice with a Docility, which, at his tender Age, was a preſage he wou'd be poſſeſs'd of that Fund of Wiſdom which now renders him worthy of his Throne.

While the young Prince was under the Conduct of the Women, God was pleas'd to touch the Heart of the late King his Father: That Monarch, who happen'd to be born a *Lutheran*, was converted to the *Roman* Catholick Religion, and not long after elected King of *Poland*; and his Majeſty being convinc'd of the Purity of the Religion which he had embrac'd, was inclin'd to make a Convert alſo of the Prince his Son. Nevertheleſs, ſuch was the Reſpect the King had for her Royal Highneſs his Mother, that he was loth that auguſt Princeſs ſhou'd be an Eye-witneſs of the young Prince's renouncing a Religion which ſhe had taught him, and to which ſhe was ſtrenuouſly attach'd: He reſolv'd therefore to remove him, and ſent him to *Francfort* to be preſent at the Coronation of the Emperor *Charles* VI. His Companion in this Journey, was M. *de Miltitz*; but as this Gentleman's Attachment to *Luther*'s Doctrine made the King apprehenſive that he wou'd thwart his Views, he recall'd

recall'd him, and appointed the Count *de Coſta*, and the Baron *de Hagen*, to be his Son's Governors.

The Count who was a *Polander* and Palatine of *Livonia*, was not only of noble Birth, but a Gentleman of ſolid Piety, profound Learning, great Probity and as much reſpected for his Principles as belov'd for his good Behaviour and Politeneſs.

The Baron *de Hagen* was of a Family of ſome Diſtinction in the Electorate of *Triers*: He was Ambaſſador from the King at the Emperor's Election, and at his Coronation at *Francfort*: His Behaviour was more grave than the Count *de Coſta*'s, but he was not inferior to the Count for Learning, Integrity, and good Senſe.

Under the Conduct of theſe two Gentlemen, the Prince ſet out to viſit a part of *Germany* and *Italy*, where he embrac'd the *Roman* Catholick Religion; his Profeſſion of which, was however for a long time as private as it is now exemplary; for he did not declare his alteration of Religion 'till after the Death of her moſt Serene Highneſs his Grandmother, who died the firſt of *July* 1717. During this the Prince made the Tour of *France*, where, tho' he travell'd under the Name of the Count *de Miſnia*, *Lewis* XIV. caus'd all the Honours to be paid to him which were due to the Son of a great King.

The Court of *France* was charm'd with that Politeneſs, that noble Modeſty, and that Fund of Wiſdom which accompany'd this Prince's Actions and Converſation: They admir'd him and were ſorry for his Departure. He travell'd a ſecond time to *Italy*, where he acquir'd that fine Taſte of Men and Things and that Knowledge of Architecture, Painting, and other curious Arts, which is ſo uſeful for great Princes. *Germany*, upon the return of this Prince, bleſs'd itſelf for having given him birth, and offer'd up Prayers that all its Princes might be like him. His Royal Highneſs ſtay'd a conſiderable while at *Vienna*,

where he maintain'd the Reputation he had acquir'd in the ſeveral Countries he had ſeen. He returned at length to *Saxony*, where there was an univerſal Joy for his Arrival. The *Saxons* were charm'd to ſee the Prince that was deſign'd by Heaven to be their Sovereign, ſo worthy of that Command. One Day or other, they ſaid, we ſhall loſe the moſt righteous of Kings, and the beſt of Maſters, but we ſhall find reſtor'd in his Son, his heroic Stature, his majeſtic Air, his Magnanimity, the ſame Temper for Goodneſs, Equity and Generoſity; the Spirit of the great *Auguſtus* will be always preſent with us; and all our Loſs will be that of his Perſonal Appearance.

Not long after the Prince's Return to *Dreſden*, *Auguſtus Chriſtopher* Count *de Wackerbarth* * treated at *Vienna* for the Marriage of his Royal Highneſs to the moſt ſerene Archdutcheſs *Maria Joſepha*, eldeſt Daughter of the late Emperor *Joſeph*. The Count *de Flemming*, Prime Miniſter and Velt-Marſhal of *Saxony*, ſolemnly demanded the moſt ſerene Archdutcheſs in Marriage; and the Prince repair'd to *Vienna* to eſpouſe her. The Ceremony was perform'd in the Chapel of *la Favorita*, with all the Pomp ſuitable to ſo great a Match. Some Days after this, their Royal Highneſſes ſet out for *Dreſden*, where they were receiv'd with an unparallell'd Magnificence. *Auguſtus* II. the moſt ſplendid of Kings, and a Prince who had the beſt Fancy for ordering of Entertainments, outdid himſelf; he thought nothing too good for celebrating the Nuptials of his ſo worthy a Son, with a Princeſs whoſe Anceſtors were all Emperors.

The Rejoicings having laſted 40 Days, the King ſet out for his Kingdom, leaving the Prince Regent, as he always did whenever he went from his Electorate. In

* Who died, *Auguſt* 13. 1734 a Miniſter of the Cabinet, Velt-Marſhal and Governour of *Dreſden*.

In 1726, the Prince himſelf took a Journey to *Poland*, to which Country he had once before accompanied the King his Father in 1711, but then made no long ſtay. There he won the hearts of the chief Nobility, who from that moment thought him worthy of ſucceeding one day to their Governor, the Great *Auguſtus*. They were pleaſed to ſee, that he honour'd their Countryman, the Count *Sulkowſki*, with his Confidence, and they thought it a happy Omen for their Nation, bleſſing their Stars, that the Prince diſtinguiſhed Virtue in one born among themſelves.

His Royal Highneſs being convinced that of all the Sums laid out by Princes, there are none leſs liable to cenſure than what they expend in Buildings, undertook that of *Wermſdorf*, which he afterwards call'd *Hubertſbourg*; and he finiſh'd that great Work in a little time, by the aſſiſtance of the King his Father: For, in ſhort, it would have been impoſſible for his Royal Highneſs to have defray'd all the Expence of it himſelf. It was already very wonderful to ſee with what Prudence he directed his Finances. His Revenue being ſettled, his Expence was ſuitable to his Rank; he had a numerous Houſhold, his Hunting-Equipage was ſumptuous, yet he did good to all that made their neceſſity known to him; his Charities were truly Royal, every body was paid; the Noblemen and the Tradeſmen receiv'd their Penſions and Salaries punctually; and his Accounts were ſo regularly kept and diſcharged by the Count *Sulkowſki*, that the Prince was never in debt.

The Prince commonly ſpent the Seaſon for hunting the Stag at *Hubertſbourg*, and employ'd the remainder of his time at *Dreſden*, in all manner of Exerciſes, being admired in every Action, for the Grace, Strength, and Dexterity with which he perform'd it, as well as for the Sobriety and Regularity

of his Manners; for he kept as regular Hours then, as he does now.

Auguſtus III. never knew what it was to be idle or vicious. Such is his Chaſtity and Fidelity to his auguſt Spouſe, that he never gave her the leaſt Reaſon ſo much as to ſuſpect his Honour. He games only for amuſement, and never plays ſo high that the loſs of the Stake can put thoſe out of temper who have the honour to be of his Party. But of all the Virtues of *Auguſtus* III. there is none, moſt certainly, which has made him more the Favourite of Heaven, than the inviolable Reſpect he always manifeſted for the King his Father, who tenderly lov'd him; and never was a Son, Heir to ſo powerful a Dominion, more affected for the loſs of a Father, than he was when he heard of the death of his. His Affliction was impreſs'd deeply on his Countenance, when he receiv'd the homage of his capital City, at his firſt appearance in publick; and to this very day, he is ready to melt in tears at the ſight of any Object that calls him to mind; for which reaſon the People of *Dreſden*, rather than renew his Sorrow, forbear the mention of a King whom *Europe* has plac'd in the Rank of its greateſt Men.

Prince FREDERIC AUGUSTUS, when he became Elector, did not alter his Manners, but retain'd the ſame Piety, the ſame Regularity. He kept moſt of the Servants of the late King his Father, and ſettled Penſions on thoſe whom he thought fit to diſmiſs. His firſt Care, when he came to the Electorate, was to provide himſelf with Miniſters, whoſe Candor and Sincerity were above Envy it ſelf. For this purpoſe, he call'd to his Cabinet Council, the Count *de Gabaleon-Wackerbarth-Salmour*, M. *de Baudiſſin*, the Count *Sulkowſki*, and M. *de Brubl*; to the two laſt of whom he committed the Direction of Affairs.

All

All *Saxony* applauded this Choice, and doubted not of being very happy under the Reign of a Prince, who was capable of forming ſo true a Judgment of Perſons for his Miniſters. But what the *Saxons* ſaw with extraordinary Satisfaction, was the ſure Proof the King gave of his Gratitude and Eſteem for Virtue, in recalling M. *de Miltitz*, heretofore his Governor, who for ſome Years paſt was retired to his Eſtate. This Gentleman wou'd fain have been excus'd from returning to Court, alledging his great Age, and his being a Stranger to Buſineſs; when his Majeſty ſent him word, that he required no more at his hands than what his Health wou'd permit; that he knew his Probity, his Love for his Country, and his Attachment to himſelf; that therefore he was willing he ſhou'd be near his Perſon, and aſſiſt him with his Advice, which he knew wou'd be ſolid, by what he gave him when he had the charge of his Education. In this manner FREDERIC AUGUSTUS, by the diſplay of his Gratitude, an uncommon Virtue (eſpecially among Princes) encourag'd his Courtiers to do what might alſo give them a Title to it.

Theſe great Qualities procur'd him the Suffrages of the moſt judicious Part of the Republic of *Poland* which choſe him for King. His Majeſty having ſent the Count *de Gabaleon-Wackerbarth-Salmour*, and M. *Baudiſſin* to *Warſaw*, with the Character of Plenipotentiaries, to take care of his Intereſts, theſe Miniſters found the *Poliſh* Lords very much divided: Foreign Gold, with the Intrigues, Cabals, and enſnaring Promiſes of a Miniſter who was laviſh of it; all this had corrupted a great number of them, and others were oppreſs'd, and muſt undoubtedly have ſubmitted to Violence, if they had not had a very great ſhare of Courage and Love to their Country. God, who never abandons the Virtuous, was their Support and their

Pro-

Protector, as well as the Shield of the Plenipotentiaries, whoſe ſacred Character could not guard them from all manner of Outrage. And tho' the Blood of the *Jagellons*, which flows in this Prince's Veins, tho' his being the Son of one of the greateſt Kings that *Poland* ever had, as well as his own Dignity of a Sovereign, ought to have procur'd him the Reſpect of all the *Poles*, yet every Perſon and Thing belonging to him at *Warſaw*, was maltreated. Such was, at that time, the unhappy Fate of *Poland*; Oppreſſion and Tyranny having ſucceeded the glorious, mild, and peaceful Reign of *Auguſtus* II.

Mean time, thoſe generous Noblemen who had ſo bravely ſtood up in the defence of the Liberties and Honour of their Country, after having tried all their Efforts to reclaim their wandering Brethren, found they could not ſucceed, and therefore broke up; after which, they met in the very ſame Place where *Henry de Valois* had been elected, and there they choſe and proclaim'd AUGUSTUS Elector of *Saxony*, King of *Poland*. They then ſent a Deputation to his Majeſty, to intreat him to come immediately, with the Queen his Conſort, to take poſſeſſion of the Throne. The King comply'd with their Intreaty, and ſet out from *Dreſden*, after having return'd ſolemn Thanks to God, the ſovereign Diſpoſer of Crowns, and of the Fortune of Kings.

In a few days the Queen followed the King, and overtook him at *Tarnovitz*, where their Majeſties received the grand Deputation from *Poland*; and after giving them Audience, proceeded in their Journey towards *Cracow*. There the King made his Royal Entry on the 14th of *January* 1734, and on the 17th of that Month, their Majeſties were conſecrated and crowned by *Lipſky* the Biſhop of that See.

Some

Some time after this auguſt Ceremony, which, in *Poland*, is abſolutely neceſſary and eſſential for a King Elect, the Queen return'd to *Saxony*; but the King ſtaid at *Cracow*, where he held a Diet, in which he made ſeveral Regulations for reſtoring the Tranquillity of the Kingdom. When the Diet was ended, his Majeſty march'd towards *Dantzic*, which the *Ruſſians*, his Allies, had inveſted, in order to drive out the Primate and his Adherents, who were retir'd thither.

But after a March of ſeveral Days, which the Severity of the Weather render'd very painful, his Majeſty yielded to the Inſtances that were made to him from *Saxony*, to aſſiſt in Perſon at the opening of the Aſſembly of States which he was under a neceſſity of calling; and he returned to *Dreſden*, where his Arrival caus'd an inexpreſſible Joy. Mean time the Army, under the Command of the Prince of *Saxe-Weiſſenfels* continued its March towards *Dantzic*.

The King was accompanied by a great number of *Poliſh* Noblemen, who finding themſelves unable to oppoſe the Rage of the Primate's Party in their ſeveral Countries, came to ſeek ſhelter in *Saxony*, where his Majeſty receiv'd them, and ſtill entertains them, in a manner which cannot but convince them of his Gratitude, and give them greater Hopes of what Favours they may expect, when the Tranquillity of *Poland* is reſtor'd.

The King, after his return from *Cracow*, ſummon'd the States of his Electorate, and open'd the Aſſembly with the uſual Ceremonies. He was ſeated on his Throne, accompanied by the chief Lords of his Court, as well the *Poliſh* as *Saxons*. M. *de Miltitz*, his Privy Counſellor, ſat on the Right-hand of the Throne; and, in the King's Name, made a Speech to the States, wherein he declared to them that his Majeſty intended to make no Innovation

vation in the Affairs of Religion, but to let his Proteſtant Subjects enjoy their Privileges, as they had been granted and confirmed to them by the late King. Then he told them the Motives which had engag'd the King to call them together, and demanded the neceſſary Subſidies for defraying the extraordinary Expences which his Majeſty had been neceſſarily involved in thro' the Calamities of the Time. M. *de Heſler*, Adminiſtrator of the Office of hereditary Marſhal of *Saxony*, return'd an Anſwer in the Name of the States, and ſpoke with a Dignity, and all the Decorum due to ſo auguſt an Aſſembly. He aſſur'd the King of the reſpectful and inviolable Fidelity and Attachment of his Subjects to his ſacred Perſon. And in truth, 'tis impoſſible for a People to be better affected to their Sovereign, and more diſpoſed to contribute to every thing that is capable of augmenting his Glory.

The King's voluntary Declaration to his States that he would make no Innovation in the Affairs of Religion, won the Hearts of his Subjects to ſuch a degree that there is not a *Saxon* who would make any ſcruple to ſacrifice his Life and Fortune for his Service. And the ſaid Declaration does equal Honour to the Juſtice of the Monarch, and the Wiſdom of his Miniſters.

While the King was employ'd with his States in ſecuring the Happineſs and Tranquillity of *Saxony*, his Majeſty received Advice, that his Army, after having join'd the *Ruſſians*, had obliged the *Dantzickers* to ſurrender, and that the *Poliſh* Lords of the contrary Party petitioned for leave to remove to ſome Place where they might pay him their homage. The King, in imitation of the great Emperor whoſe Name he bears, after having made a conqueſt, thought, like him, of nothing more than to make thoſe happy whom the Fortune of War had ſubmitted to his Arms. His Majeſty did not take

any

any advantage of his Victory, but forgetting paſt Offences, repair'd to the Abbey of *Oliva*, near *Dantzic*, where he receiv'd the Submiſſion of the *Dantzickers*, and the Allegiance of the Lords that were the Primate's Adherents. By his Modeſty and Goodneſs, he charm'd the Vanquiſhed, and convinc'd them of their Obligation to pay him that Eſteem which before perhaps they did not think was their Duty to grant to him. The Greatneſs of his Soul, which inclines him to ſympathize with the Misfortunes of the Unhappy, hinder'd him from entering *Dantzic*, the deſolate State of that City being ſo afflicting a Scene to him, that he cou'd not bear to ſee it. The *Dantzickers*, by their ſubmiſſion, were become his Subjects; their preſent Misfortunes, and their paſt Miſtakes, affected him to ſuch a degree, that he was fearful of being put in mind of them, and refus'd to appear among them, crown'd with thoſe Laurels which he had reap'd by their defeat. So much Modeſty, worthy of the moſt glorious Triumph, gain'd him the Prayers of the People, in which his Majeſty ſaw more Charms, than he wou'd have found in Trophies, and the moſt ſtately Triumphal Arches.

The King having provided for the preſſing Neceſſities of his Kingdom, return'd to his Electorate, where the States continued their Deliberations ever ſince his Abſence. Now that his Majeſty is return'd, the Care of the State is almoſt his conſtant Employment. His Recreations are either taking the Air on horſeback, Hunting, the *Italian* Opera, or elſe going to Concerts, which the Queen, who is a great Lover of Muſic, cauſes to be perform'd in her own Apartment. Their Majeſties generally dine together, and admit the Nobility of both Sexes to their Table.

There

There, the King obſerves that Temperance which ſo much becomes ſovereign Princes. All his Hours, as has been already obſerv'd, are regulated; and all his Actions accompany'd with Devotion, good Order, and Equity. Never did King better diſcharge that ſacred Character; being always firm and tranquil, Danger cou'd never affright him. He accepted the Crown, tho' he ſaw he cou'd never fix it on his Head without infinite Pains, Peril, and Cares. The Advantage he had gain'd over his Enemies did not ſeem to have fluſh'd him; he was ſorry he had not been able to reclaim them by gentle Methods, and aſcribes the happy Succeſs of his Arms ſolely to Providence.

Thus have I given you a very imperfect Account of the Virtues and Actions of a King, which plainly denote that the perfect honeſt Man (a Title not unworthy even of the ſacred Majeſty of Kings) forms his Character. As for his Stature, 'tis ſuch as, one wou'd think, thoſe ought to have who are born to command. He has a robuſt and vigorous Conſtitution, a ſound Judgment, a happy Memory, a generous and beneficent Soul, the neceſſary Conſtituents of the Hero and the Chriſtian. His Conduct is regulated by a great Attachment to the Principles of Religion. His Aim and his Application are to render his Subjects happy; and he only longs for Peace that they may taſte the Fruits of it.

As to her MAJESTY the QUEEN, the Name of that auguſt Princeſs, whom Heaven has endowed with all manner of Virtues, to be the worthy Wife of a King, is MARIA JOSEPHA, who was born the 8th of *December* 1699, and is the eldeſt Daughter of *Joſeph* Emperor of the *Romans*, and of *Wilhelmina Amelia* of *Brunſwic-Lunenbourg-Hanover*. Her Marriage to the King, then the Prince Royal, was celebrated at *Vienna*, the 20th of *Auguſt* 1719, betwixt

betwixt 8 and 9 a Clock at Night, in the Chapel of the Palace of the *Favorita*, by the Pope's Nuncio, who next day perform'd the ſolemn Maſs. In a few days after, this Princeſs ſet out with her Huſband for *Saxony*. It has been already obſerved with what Pomp ſhe was received by the King her Father-in-law; and the Veneration paid her by the Subjects, was equal to the Magnificence of her Reception by the King. The Returns that the Princeſs made on her part, manifeſted a Goodneſs which nothing cou'd reſiſt; ſo that ſhe had the Homage and the Hearts both of the Courtiers and the common People. Being the Daughter of a Princeſs, whom the World reſpects even more for her Virtues than for the Splendour of that extraordinary Grandeur with which ſhe is inviron'd, her Royal Highneſs's ſole Concern was to walk in the Steps of that auguſt Mother, the Pattern of Princeſſes, and the Honour of Religion. She conceiv'd a Reſpect for the King her Father-in-law, and the Queen her Mother-in-law, from which ſhe never departed; and now that ſhe is a Sovereign, ſhe has no other Cares than to render a Nation happy which is worthy of being ſo for its Affection and Fidelity to its Electors. She is inviolably attach'd to her Duties, full of Tenderneſs and Reſpect for her Huſband, and always wiſely employ'd in what may procure him ſolid Comfort. She continually gives him Examples of Piety and Charity; ſhe is beneficent to all that make their Neceſſities known to her, and ſeems to think every unfortunate Subject merits her Protection. The Care ſhe takes of her Children is not only the Care of a tender Mother, but of a Queen, who, in love to the State, is deſirous to form their Minds, ſo as to render them worthy of being its Sovereigns, and to procure them the advantage of being more reſpected, if poſſible, for their Virtues than their Birth.

The

The Queen, who went with the King to *Cracow*, and there receiv'd the Crown, return'd after her Coronation to *Saxony*, where ſhe is belov'd and reverenc'd by People of all Ranks. This auguſt Princeſs ſeems to have an Air of Gravity, as have all the Princes of the moſt ſerene Houſe of *Auſtria*; but as ſhe is ſerious, ſo ſhe is diſcreet, modeſt, and good-natur'd. She was educated, as are all the Archdutcheſſes, in the knowledge of Things uſeful for thoſe who are born to govern States; ſhe ſpeaks ſeveral Languages very readily, and particularly the *Latin*, in ſuch a manner as both charms and ſurprizes the *Poles*. She is Miſtreſs of Hiſtory and Geography, and has a ſolid Taſte of Muſick, Painting, and all the Sciences in general: Yet never did Queen take leſs Pride in her Talents; for, by kindly condeſcending to accommodate her ſelf to the Capacities of thoſe with whom ſhe converſes, ſhe conceals all her Superiority. Her high Rank ſerves only to render her affable; ſhe is the Mother of the People, and particularly of the Poor. And to ſum up the Character of this great Princeſs, it may be ſaid in ſhort, that ſhe is a virtuous Wife, a faithful Companion, a tender Mother, and a compaſſionate Sovereign.

His Royal Highneſs the PRINCE ROYAL and ELECTORAL was born at *Dreſden*, the 5th of *September* 1722, and baptized in the *Roman* Catholick Church, by the Name of *Frederic Chriſtian*: He is handſome, and has a Countenance full of Good-nature, and indeed his Goodneſs charms all that pay their court to him. His Knowledge and Learning are beyond one of his tender Years; he talks ſeveral Languages juſtly, and with eaſe; and his ſtrong Inclination to follow the wiſe Counſels of his Governor, the Count *Gabaleon-Wackerbarth-Salmour*, is a ſure Preſage that when he comes to the Age of Maturity, he will walk in the glorious Steps of the King his Father.

As

As to their Royal Highneſſes the other Princes, the eldeſt of them, Prince AUGUSTUS-ALBERT-CHRISTIAN-XAVIER was born the 25th of *Auguſt* 1730. He is handſome, full of Life and Spirit, and already diſcovers a great Inclination to every thing military. He is infinitely better pleaſed to ſee the Officers of his Regiment about him than the Women his Attendants. The Noiſe of Drums and Trumpets is the moſt agreeable Muſic to him; and according to all appearance, 'tis what he will always prefer to the Flute. When he went with their Majeſties to *Cracow*, and heard talk of the Ravages committed by the Palatine of *Kiow*; he ſaid, he had a mind to go and fight him; and cut off his Head. In fine, all the Actions of this young Prince give hopes that he will add one to the Number of Heroes deſcended from the auguſt Blood of *Saxony*.

CHARLES-CHRISTIAN-JOSEPH came into the World *July* 13. 1733. ſo that his Royal Highneſs is too young as yet for any Character in Hiſtory; and I ſhall proceed next to their Royal Highneſſes the Princeſſes.

Her Royal Highneſs MARY-AMELIA, their Majeſties eldeſt Daughter, was born at *Dreſden*, the 24th of *September* 1724. She is fair, very well ſhape'd, and has the Air of her Mother. Her Features are regular; and 'tis heartily to be wiſh'd that the Small-Pox may ſpare them. The Care the Queen takes of her Education is ſo well beſtow'd on her that ſhe is much better form'd than Princeſſes of her Age generally are.

MARY-ANNE-SOPHIA was born the 24th of *Auguſt* 1728. She is brown, and likely to be much admir'd for her Beauty. There is ſomething in her Phyſiognomy ſo ſubtle and witty that ſhe has already ſecur'd the Suffrages of the Courtiers.

The Princeſs MARY-JOSEPHA was born the 4th of *November* 1731. Heaven has been pleas'd to grant her a ſhare of Beauty with all the Princes and Princeſſes her Brothers and Siſters.

I ſhou'd make ſome mention of all the PRINCES and PRINCESSES of the BLOOD, *viz.* all the moſt ſerene Dukes, Princes and Princeſſes of the Family of *Saxony*, particularly thoſe who are deriv'd from the *Albertine* Branch, as deſcending with the King from the Elector *John-George* I. who form'd the four Branches, *viz.* the Electoral Branch, and thoſe of *Weiſſenfels*, *Merſbourg*, and *Zeits*. But as this is only an Epitome of *Auguſtus* III's Court, I ſhall only take notice of thoſe Princes who reſide there; *viz.* JOHN-ADOLPHUS Duke of SAXE-WEISSENFELS, and the Princeſs CHRISTINA of SAXE-WEISSENFELS.

The Duke, who was born *September* 4, 1685, is of a good Stature. His Air, Behaviour, and way of thinking, denote his Birth; and never was Prince more worthy of being ſo. He is beneficent, generous; and all the Qualities which attract Love and Eſteem are united in his Perſon. After having ſpent his early Days in the Service of *Heſſe-Caſſel*, he enter'd into that of the late King; and in the ſeveral Campaigns which he made in *Germany*, *Italy*, *Flanders*, and *Poland*, he always ſignaliz'd his Valour; and particularly not long ago, when he ſupported the Reputation of the King's Arms before *Dantzic* in a conſpicuous manner. His Goodneſs, his Modeſty, and his Care to diſtinguiſh true Merit, gain him the Love and Veneration both of the Officers and Soldiers. This Prince is actually a Lieutenant-General in the Emperor's Army, General of the *Saxon* Horſe and Foot, Colonel of the Life-Guards, and of a Regiment of Foot, and Knight of the Order of the *White-Eagle*. He

is the Widower of *Caroline* Princeſs of *Saxe-Eyſenach*, and profeſſes the *Lutheran* Religion.

The Princeſs CHRISTINA of SAXE-WEISSENFELS, who was born the 27th of *July* 1690, adheres to the *Roman* Catholic Doctrine, Prince *Albert* her Father being a Convert to that Communion. She is of a good Stature, has a grand Majeſtic Air, and her Behaviour is graceful and polite: Her moſt ſerene Highneſs receives all that draw near to her with Reſpect and Kindneſs; and demonſtrates her high Birth only by diſcharging the Obligations of it. She is ſo firmly attach'd to the Queen by the Bands of Love and Virtue that ſhe is careſs'd and diſtinguiſh'd by her; and all the Court honours and reſpects her more out of Inclination than Duty.

You will not perhaps be ſorry to know the Names, *&c.* of the late King's legitimated Natural Iſſue, who are rank'd immediately after the Princes of the Blood. They are four Sons and three Daughters, of whom I ſhall now give you an Account, and who were their Mothers.

1. Count *Maurice* of *Saxony* is the eldeſt of the late King's Natural Children; by *Aurora* Counteſs of *Koningſmark*, the moſt worthy of her Sex in *Europe* to be the Miſtreſs of a great King; and of all the King's favourite Ladies, ſhe kept longeſt in his Favour, ſo that after her Retirement ſhe acquitted herſelf ſo well that ſhe continued in the poſſeſſion of his Majeſty's Eſteem and Regard. She is ſtill living, and after having been a Prioreſs of the Imperial *Lutheran* Abbey of *Quedlinbourg* ſhe roſe to be the Abbeſs. The Count is a Lieutenant-General, and Colonel of a Regiment of Foot in *France*.

2. The next is the Count *Rotoſſki* or *Rutowſki*, Lieutenant-General, and Colonel of the Crown-Guards, who owes his Birth to the King's tender Paſſion for *Fatima* a *Turkiſh* Lady who was taken priſoner ve-

ry young, and fell to the ſhare of M. *Schoning*, a Lieutenant-General in the Service of the Elector of *Brandenbourg*, who carried her to *Berlin*, and had her baptiz'd without altering her Name, tho' ſhe afterwards went by that of Madame *de Spiegel*. Mademoiſelle *de Flemming*, known by the Name of *Brebentau*, having married the Palatine of that Name, took a fancy to her, obtain'd her of M. *de Schoning*, and carried her with her into *Poland*, where from a Slave ſhe became the King's Miſtreſs, tho' Madame *Brebentau* did not perceive it till *Fatima*'s Waiſt betray'd her. She had as much Wit as Beauty, and every body ſaid ſhe deſerv'd her Fortune. Nevertheleſs, ſhe did not enjoy it long; for Madame *de Lubomirſki*, who was Wife to the Great Chamberlain of the Crown, ſtole away the King's Heart from her. The Count *Rutowſki* is a Major-General of the King's Forces, Colonel of the Life-Guards, and of a Regiment of Foot, and Knight of the Order of the *White-Eagle*. This Nobleman very much reſembles the late King his Father, having his Strength, Dexterity, Valour and Politeneſs. He had his Education in *France*, and from thence went into the Service of *Victor Amadeus* the late King of *Sardinia*. Then he enter'd for a little while into the Service of the King of *Pruſſia*, and at length fix'd himſelf in that of *Saxony*, when he ſignaliz'd his Valour at the Siege of *Dantzic*, and afterwards made the Campaign as a Voluntier in the Imperial Army on the *Rhine*. As for his Religion, he profeſſes the *Roman* Catholic.

3. The third of the late King's Natural Sons is *George* Prince *de Teſchen*, otherwiſe call'd the *Chevalier de Saxony*, whom he had by Madame *de Lubomirſki* above mentioned, who was Niece to the famous Cardinal *Radjouſki* Archbiſhop of *Gneſna*, and Primate of *Poland*. After this Lady had indulg'd the King's Paſſion ſhe got a Divorce from

Prince

Prince *Lubomirſki*, and took the Title of the Princeſs *de Teſchen*, which was granted to her by the Emperor. This Son of her's was brought up in the *Roman* Catholic Religion. He is a Colonel in the King's Service, and Knight of the Order of the *White-Eagle*. He is a well-ſet Man, has a noble Air, and ſupports his Title by a great ſhare of Valour and good Senſe. He is perfect Maſter of military Architecture, and has great Talents for War, which he cultivates to ſuch a degree that his very Amuſements are the Study of what a great Captain ought to know. This Deſire of his to be qualify'd ſome day or other for the Command of an Army engag'd him, at his return from the Siege of *Dantzic*, to repair to the Army of Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy* to improve himſelf in the Art of War under that Great Maſter.

4. The fourth and youngeſt of the Natural Sons of the late King of *Poland* is the Count *de Coſel*, Knight of the Order of the *White-Eagle*, whoſe Mother was the Counteſs *de Coſel*; which Lady is alſo Mother to the Counteſſes of *Frieſland* * and *Moſchinſki* †. The Count is a tall handſome Youth, modeſt and reſerv'd, and more prudent than might be expected from his Years. This Nobleman, who does not diſparage his Birth, is now making the Campaign upon the *Rhine* in the Imperial Army. He is of the *Lutheran* Communion.

Madame *de Coſel* is of the Family of *Bruchſtorf*, and a Native of *Holſtein*. She was Maid of Honour to the Dutcheſs of *Wolfembuttle*, when the Count *de Hoym* Miniſter of State to the King of *Poland* married her: The Count ſoon after the Marriage carried her to *Dreſden*, where the King fell in

* She died at *Dreſden* ſoon after this was written.

† Count *Moſchinſki*, the Huſband of this Lady, was Great Treaſurer of the Court in *Poland*, and is Great Faulconer in *Saxony*.

love with her, and no ſooner made it known to her but gain'd her compliance. M. *de Hoym* enrag'd at this demanded a Divorce from her, which his Wife readily came into; ſo that the Conſiſtory of *Dreſden* declared their Marriage null and void. M. *de Hoym* married again, and Madame took the Title of the Counteſs *de Coſel*; but this Lady at once loſt the King's Favour and her Liberty into the bargain, and is kept cloſe Priſoner in a Caſtle, where ſhe has nothing to do but to indulge her melancholy Reflections upon the Revolutions of her Fortune *.

The NATURAL DAUGHTERS of the late King are, 1. The Counteſs of *Bilinſki*, (Siſter of the Count *Rutowſki*) who was born in *Poland* as well as her Brother, and educated in the *Roman* Catholic Religion. *Auguſtus* II. gave her in Marriage to the Count *Bilinſki*. The Counteſs's frequent Ailments obliged her to go to *Paris* for her Health; ſo that not being of this Court, 'twill not be expected I ſhould give her Character.

2. The

* Madame *de Coſel* may thank no body but her ſelf for her Diſgrace; for when ſhe was in Royal Keeping, ſhe had the aſſurance to threaten the King more than once that if ever he abandon'd her ſhe wou'd piſtol him. The King, who knew her to be a Woman that always kept her word, thought it his beſt way to be beforehand with her, tho' it was not till ſome time after that he caus'd her to be arreſted. Madame *de Coſel*, who was retir'd to *Berlin*, did not diſſemble her Chagrin; and 'tis ſaid ſhe declar'd in publick that the King ſhould pay dear for being ſo falſe to her: Threats which his Majeſty wou'd perhaps have deſpis'd, if Madame *de Coſel* had not refuſed to give him back a Promiſe which he had made to her of marrying her in caſe the Queen ſhou'd die. Mean time the King deſir'd of the King of *Pruſſia* to give orders for arreſting her, which was done accordingly; and Madame *de Coſel* was carried under a Guard to *Saxony*, where ſhe remain'd a Priſoner till the death of the King. But we have been told by the publick News-Papers that ſhe obtain'd her Liberty in 1734.

2. The Counteſs of *Orſelſka*, who was born at *Warſaw*, of one *Renard* a *French* Woman, and bred up in the *Roman* Catholic Faith: She is of a good Stature, and very charming. Of all the late King's legitimated Children his Majeſty ſeem'd to be fondeſt of this. She was at firſt very much neglected, and it did not appear that the King ever intended to own her. But Count *Rotofſki* ſeeing her at *Warſaw* in a Plight too mean for her Birth took the freedom to mention her to the King her Father, and told him that ſhe merited ſome Kindneſs from him. The King thereupon deſir'd to ſee her, and ſhe came into his Preſence in the *Amazonian* Habit, which was her favourite Dreſs. The King thought ſhe reſembled him very much, and not being able to reſiſt the tender Impreſſions of Nature he embrac'd her, and call'd her his Daughter. At the ſame time he order'd the whole Court to acknowledge her in that Quality, gave her a magnificent Palace, with Diamonds without number, and ſettled great Penſions on her. 'Tis certain, in ſhort, that never was Daughter more like her Father; ſhe had the ſame Features, Temper and Genius. It was impoſſible for her to be handſomer with a more grand Air. She is fond of Magnificence, Expence, and Pleaſures. One of her Diverſions is to dreſs in Mens Apparel. It was in this Habit that I ſaw her the firſt time, when ſhe was on horſeback, in a purple Habit embroider'd with Silver, and wore the blue Ribband of *Poland*. Being all alone, I could not learn who ſhe was, but really took her to be ſome young Foreign Nobleman whom I had not yet ſeen. I never beheld any body ſit better than ſhe did on horſeback, or have a more amiable Air; inſomuch, that many Ladies would have been glad of a Lover ſo handſome. The ſame evening I ſaw her at the Ball, where ſhe was ſtill dreſs'd like a Man, only her Habit was more rich than it was in the morn-

ing, and her diſhevell'd Locks of Hair hung down in fine Curls about her Shoulders; ſo that *Cupid* himſelf was not more tempting when he appear'd before *Pſyche*. Her good Mien, and the graceful Air with which I ſaw her dance a Minuet, made me inquire who this pretty Youth was? Count *Rotoffſki*, who overheard me, made anſwer, *The young Man whom you admire wou'd do you no great harm if you were a Woman, but may poſſibly hurt you as the Caſe ſtands; but come along with me*, continued he, taking me by the Hand, *I will make him known to you, then leave you to come off with him as well as you can.* I gueſs'd by theſe Words that the Perſon he was going to uſher me to was the Counteſs *Orſelſka*; and I was confirmed in my Suſpicion when I heard Count *Rotoffſki* ſay to her, *Siſter, here is a Gentleman who has all due Reſpects for you, and who, I'll engage will be ready to ſerve you in whatever you ſhall require of him.* Madamoiſelle *Orſelſka* ſmiling at this Diſcourſe, I ſaluted her with all the Reſpect which I ow'd to her Rank, and ſhe receiv'd me in the moſt obliging manner poſſible. I ſaw her next day in Womens Apparel, and thought her ſtill more amiable. I viſit her every day, and now whenever I go to her I generally find with her *Charles Lewis*, a younger Prince of the Family of *Holſtein-Beck*, who 'tis ſaid is the happy Man for whom ſhe is deſign'd in Marriage *.

3. The Counteſs *Moſchinſki*, Daughter of the Counteſs of *Coſel*, was born at *Dreſden*, and match'd by the late King to the Count *de Moſchinſki*, a *Poliſh* Nobleman. Her ſober and courteous Deportment,

* This Marriage was actually conſummated at *Dreſden*. But ſince the King's death, the Prince of *Holſtein* has abandon'd his Wife, whom he only married with a view of obtaining ſome conſiderable Employment from the King. The preſent Elector has eas'd her of moſt of that Wealth which the late King had heap'd on her.

ment, and the Goodneſs of her Temper, have procured her both Love and Reverence.

Having now treated of the Princes of the Royal Family, I proceed to give you an account of the chief Noblemen of the Court; and in the firſt place, of the MINISTERS of the CABINET.——Theſe are, 1. *Waldemar* Baron *de Lowendahl* Grand Marſhal, Knight of the *Saxon* Order of the *White Eagle*, and of the *Daniſh* Order of the *Elephant*, who by his Poſt of Grand Marſhal holds the firſt Rank at the Court of *Saxony*, becauſe the Elector is Arch Grand-Marſhal of the Empire. He is a *Dane* by birth, and deſcended from a Count of *Guldenlowe*, a natural Son of the Blood-Royal of *Denmark*. He ſpent his youthful Days in the Service of the *States-General*, and was made a Captain in the Blue Guards; which he afterwards quitted, and went into the Service of the Emperor *Leopold*, and diſtinguiſh'd himſelf in quality of a Lieutenant-Colonel in 1683, at the raiſing of the Siege of *Vienna*; after which he return'd to *Denmark*, where he ſerv'd with Honour. But leaving that Court upon ſome Diſguſt, he came into *Saxony*, where *Auguſtus* II. declared him Preſident of the Chamber, which Office he held when the King of *Denmark* recall'd him home. It was with the Approbation of his Maſter the King of *Poland* that he return'd to *Copenhagen*, where his *Daniſh* Majeſty gave him the Command of his Army in *Norway* againſt the *Swedes*; which Commiſſion he diſcharged with ſo much Honour, that he was dignify'd with the Order of the *Elephant*, as he had already been by that of *Dannebroc*. He might, had he pleaſed, have enjoy'd the greateſt Offices in *Denmark*; but he had promiſed *Auguſtus* II. not to forſake him, ſo that he refus'd all the Advantages which *Frederic* IV. offer'd him, and return'd into *Saxony*. After the death of the Count *de Phlug*, the late King appointed him Grand Marſhal, which Office he ſtill executes

executes with Honour. Tho' he is now advanced in years he has a ſound Conſtitution, and the Air, Behaviour, and Way of Thinking of a Man of his Quality. Being affable and polite, he does the Honours of the Court in a Gentleman-like manner, for which the Courtiers reverence him, and the King profeſſes an eſteem for him. His Majeſty is the ſixth King whom this Miniſter has ſerv'd. He has married to his ſecond Wife a Lady of the Family of *Rantzau*, in the Country of *Holſtein*, who bears a valuable Character, and is as polite as can be deſired, ſpeaking *French* as well as if ſhe was born at *Verſailles*. The Grand Marſhal has two Sons by his firſt Marriage with a Lady of *Revenclau:* his youngeſt, *viz. Woldemar* Baron *de Lowendahl* is Major-General of the King's Armies, Inſpector-General of the *Saxon* Infantry, and Colonel of a Regiment of Foot. He was fourteen years old when the Grand Marſhal ſent him to *Denmark*; where he made a Campaign at Sea under Admiral *Tordenſchild*. At his return to *Dreſden* he carried a Muſket, and afterwards paſs'd through all the ſubaltern Degrees. When he was but a Lieutenant he accompany'd General *Seckendorf* to *Vienna*, where the Marſhal Count *Guido de Staremberg* gave him a Company in his Regiment, and he diſtinguiſh'd himſelf in a particular manner at the Sieges of *Temiſwaer* and *Belgrade*, and in *Sicily*. Since that, he enter'd into the Service of *Auguſtus* II. who gave him a Regiment. Afterwards he made two Campaigns as a Voluntier with the Imperialiſts in *Corſica*; and upon all occaſions manifeſted that Valour, Skill, and Prudence, as he did lately in the Defence of *Cracow*; where, with a weak and ſickly Garriſon, he not only made a vigorous ſtand againſt the Attacks of the Primate's *Poliſh* Adherents, but alſo obliged them to retire. This General is ſo fond of ſignalizing his Bravery that he was ſcarce return'd from *Poland*,

but

but he went to make the Campaign as a Voluntier, with the Imperial Army on the *Rhine*. He lives magnificently, keeps a good Table, and is very civil to Foreigners.

2. *Anthony* Count *de Lutzelbourg*, who is by birth a *Lorrainer*, and an exemplary Profeſſor of the Roman Catholic Religion, is Lieutenant-General of the Forces, Knight of the Order of the *White-Eagle*, and General of the Horſe. He is pretty tall, and has a chearful Countenance, with a noble eaſy Behaviour which ſhews the Man of Quality. His Merit procured him the Honour of being the King's Governour after the Deceaſe of the Count *de Coſta*, which Poſt he held 'till his Majeſty came of age, when he was appointed Steward of his Houſhold, and was as much eſteem'd by their Royal Highneſſes as he is valued by the Courtiers, and belov'd by the Domeſtics of the Prince who are under his command; but his frequent Ailments oblig'd him to quit that Office: Nevertheleſs he was laſt year at *Vienna*, where he received for the King his Maſter the Inveſtiture of his Feudatory States of the Empire, and concluded the Treaty of Alliance ſtill ſubſiſting between the two Courts.

3. *Henry-Frederic* Count of *Frieſland*, is Great Chamberlain, General of the Infantry, Lieutenant-General of the King's Forces, and Knight of the Order of the *White-Eagle*. He is deſcended from a Family which has for a long time been of illuſtrious Rank in *Saxony*. He ſpent part of his Youth in the Service of *Peter* the Great, Czar of *Muſcovy*, and ſignaliz'd his Valour very much at the Battle of *Pultowa*; where *Charles* XII. King of *Sweden* in a few Hours loſt all the fruit of nine years Toil, and of an infinite number of Victories. Soon after this great Battle he ſhew'd his Wiſdom to be equal to his Bravery at the Battle of *Pruth*; which though it did not turn out ſo much to the Czar's Honour,

was

was altogether as fortunate to him, ſince it extricated that Prince out of the worſt ſcrape that perhaps ever King was reduced to. He enter'd afterwards into the Service of the late King; who being ſenſible of his Merit, raiſed him to the greateſt Dignities of his Court, and married him to one of the Daughters that he had by the Counteſs of *Coſel*. The Great Chamberlain, who has the Looks and Behaviour of a Man of Quality, thinks and acts too like a Nobleman. Few Perſons ſurpaſs him in Politeneſs and Learning: He is perfect Maſter of ſeveral Languages, and of every thing that forms the Miniſter and the General. He loves Literature and the Arts, and was always their Supporter. He lives handſomely, and has ſuch a Preſence as commands the Veneration of all that have to do with him.

4. *Joſeph* Count *de Gabaleon-Wackerbarth Salmour*, the adopted Son of the Velt-Marſhal *Auguſtus Chriſtopher* Count *de Wackerbarth* who ſucceeded Marſhal *de Flemming* in the chief command of the Troops in *Saxony*, and was not only Marſhal, but a Miniſter of State, Grand Maſter of the Artillery, Governour of *Dreſden*, and Knight of the Order of the *White-Eagle*. The Father was born of a good Family in *Mecklembourg*; but from his very youth he attach'd himſelf to the Elector of *Saxony*; and by his own Merit, and the Friendſhip of his Predeceſſor Count *Flemming*, he was raiſed to the chief Poſts in the Army and the Court. In 1709 he had the Command of the *Saxon* Troops before *Tournay*, as he had in 1715 before *Strahlſund*, when 'twas beſieged by the Kings of *Denmark* and *Pruſſia*, and defended by *Charles* XII. King of *Sweden*. M. *de Wackerbarth* was made Count of the Empire by the King his Maſter, while that Prince was Vicar of the Empire, after the death of the Emperor *Joſeph*. After being grac'd with this Dignity,

nity, the Count *de Wackerbarth* was employ'd in ſundry important Negociations, eſpecially at *Vienna*; where he married a *Piedmonteſe* Lady, the Dowager of *Charles* Margrave of *Brandenbourg*, Brother to *Frederic* I. King of *Pruſſia*, who when he was but very young at the Univerſity of *Turin*, married her by the Left-hand, as you know is the Faſhion among our Princes when they marry below themſelves. However the Lady went by the Name of Madame *de Brandenbourg* to the very day that the Count *de Wackerbarth* married her, being ſo proud of the Title that ſhe was reſolv'd never to part with it 'till ſhe was married again: Notwithſtanding the advantageous Offers made to her from the King of *Pruſſia* to engage her to renounce it, her refuſal of which was the more generous becauſe 'twas at a time too when ſhe was in narrow Circumſtances; yet her conſtant Anſwer was, that nothing in the Univerſe ſhould tempt her to debaſe herſelf; and that ſhe had rather be poor, and paſs for the Wife of the Margrave of *Brandenbourg*, than be rich, and paſs for his Miſtreſs. Before ſhe became Madame *de Brandenbourg* ſhe was the Widow of a certain Count *de Salmour*, by whom ſhe had a Son whom ſhe engaged the Count *de Wackerbarth*, when ſhe married him, to adopt for his own. I confeſs I never ſaw this Lady; for at the time of my former Voyage hither ſhe was at *Vienna*; and now ſhe is dead. They talk of her ſtill as one of the acuteſt Women of her time. But to return to the Marſhal; he is very civil, lives with great Splendor, and his Houſe is open to all Foreigners. He was mighty intimate with the Count *de Flemming*, Prime Miniſter and Favourite of the King; ſo that they fully contradicted the Proverb, *That Fire and Water can't agree*; for Count *Flemming* was lively almoſt to the Degree of a Fury, whereas the Count *de Wackerbarth*, on the contrary, abounded

abounds with Phlegm *. We go back now to his adopted Son *Joſeph* above-mention'd, a *Piedmonteſe*, at preſent one of the Miniſters of the Cabinet †.

He is alſo Knight of the Order of the *White-Eagle*, and Governour of his Royal Highneſs the Prince Royal and Electoral. He bears the Name and Arms of *Wackerbarth*, by reaſon of his being adopted as above by the Velt-Marſhal his Father-in-law; upon whoſe death, he ſucceeded to his Eſtate. He took to arms betimes; but having receiv'd a Wound in the Foot, which he feels to this day, he was oblig'd to quit a Profeſſion in which he diſtinguiſh'd himſelf, and apply'd afterwards to Affairs of State. The late King ſent him to the Courts of *Bavaria* and *Vienna*, where he ſupported the Prerogatives of his Character with Dignity, and gain'd the extraordinary Eſteem of their Imperial Majeſties and the Miniſters. *Auguſtus* II. recall'd him from *Vienna*, and ſent him to *Rome*, to the new Pope *Clement* XII. The *Romans*, thoſe Maſters in the Art of Politics, were ſoon convinced that this Miniſter knew more than they could teach him: They admired the Prudence and Reſolution with which he behav'd when the *Sbirri* preſum'd to invade the Franchiſe of his Quarter; and all own'd that the moſt experienced Miniſter could not have better ſupported the Honour of his Maſter. At his Return from *Rome*, the late King, to the Satisfaction of all Men, appointed him Governour to Prince *Frederic*, the preſent Prince Royal and Electoral; the Count having all the neceſſary Qualifications to fill that Poſt with Honour: For beſides a good

* He died in *Auguſt*, 1734; and was ſucceeded in his Employments by the Prince of *Saxe-Weiſſenfels*, and the Count of *Frieſland*.

† The Count *de Wackerbarth Salmour* diſtinguiſh'd himſelf, in the year 1733, when the new Elector ſent him Commiſſary Plenipotentiary to *Poland*; where he manag'd the Intereſts of his Maſter ſo well, that he was choſe King.

good Share of Religion, he is a Gentleman of known Candour, great Experience in Buſineſs, and abundance of Good-nature, Politeneſs, and Modeſty: And he is not only deeply learn'd, but always ſtudious how to anſwer the great Truſt repoſed in him by their Majeſties; and as the Method he takes to inſtruct the Prince has won him his Royal Highneſs's Eſteem and Friendſhip, ſo it cannot fail of procuring him one day the Praiſe and Gratitude of thoſe who are concern'd for the Glory of the Royal Family.

When *Auguſtus* III. came to the Government he ſent the Count, with M. *de Baudiſſin*, in Quality of his Plenipotentiaries, to the Republic of *Poland*; in which Poſt he anſwer'd the Expectation which the King had of his Capacity. His Wiſdom got the better of all Oppoſition; and he had the advantage of triumphing over the Intrigues and Cabals of the Primate. After the King had been proclaim'd the Count ſwore, in his Majeſty's Name, in the Church at *Warſaw*, to the Obſervation of the *Pacta Conventa* drawn up by the Members of the Republic; and then accompanied the Grand Deputation of the *Poliſh* Nobility to *Tarnowitz*. 'Twas he that made anſwer, in the Name of their Majeſties, to the Harangues of the Biſhop of *Cracow* declaring the Republic's Acknowledgement of his Title, and their Obedience. And the Anſwer he return'd was in the two Languages in which the Prelate addreſs'd him: He ſpoke in *Latin* for the King, and in *French* for the Queen.

The Count being return'd to *Dreſden* ſince their Majeſties Coronation, is wholly taken up in the Education of the Prince Royal; and his care of him has been crown'd with ſuch Succeſs that we may propheſy his Royal Highneſs will one day draw down that Bleſſing of God upon himſelf, which is upon the Head of the Juſt.

5. *Wolff-*

5. *Wolff-Henry de Baudiſſin*, General of the Horſe, Colonel of a Regiment of Carabiniers, and Knight of the Order of the *White-Eagle*, and that of *Dannebroc*, has all the Qualities requiſite for a well-born Gentleman, *viz.* an agreeable Aſpect, a good Stature, a noble Air, eaſy and engaging Behaviour, approv'd Valour, a Generoſity free of all Oſtentation; and finally what is ſuperior to all theſe Qualities, he has a Fund of Probity and Candour which nothing can corrupt. He is a Native of *Holſtein*, and ſpent his early Years in the Service of *Sweden*, and afterwards in that of the Duke his Sovereign, who gave him a Regiment, with which he ſerv'd all the laſt War in the *Netherlands*, in the Poſt of Major-General. *Auguſtus* II. calling him to his Service, made him Lieutenant-General of his Forces, and then General of the Cavalry. When *Auguſtus* III. came to the Government he ſummon'd him to his Cabinet-Council, and ſent him as his Plenipotentiary to *Poland*, where he had a hand in every Tranſaction for the Advantage and Honour of the King. He afterwards commanded the Army which his Majeſty was obliged to carry into his Kingdom for the Defence of his oppreſſed Subjects; and there he fell ſo dangerouſly ill that he was obliged to return to *Germany*, to make uſe of the Waters of *Pyrmont*, by which he found benefit; and he is now at *Dreſden*, where his Seniority gives him the Command in chief of the Forces.

6. *Alexander-Joſeph* Count *de Sulkowſki*, Staroſt of *Sokolnick*, Chief Huntſman of *Lithuania*, Maſter of the Horſe, Great Maſter of the Wardrobe, Major-General of the King's Forces, Colonel of the Crown-Guards and of a Regiment of Foot, and Knight of the Order of the *White-Eagle*, is a *Polander*. Being taken into Service very young as Page to the King, then Prince Royal and Electoral, he accompanied him in his Travels, and there acquir'd

acquir'd a good Fund of Knowledge. His great Sobriety, his Aſſiduity, his Application to the diſcharge of his Duties, his Senſe, and his ſincere Attachment to Religion, won his Maſter's Heart, of which he keeps poſſeſſion even to this day; with a Diſtinction that does him the more Honour, becauſe he derives it from the King's thorough conviction of his Merit.

The Count is of a good Stature, has a noble and modeſt Air, and a Candor in his Converſation and his Actions, which is very engaging. He is civil, and makes no other Uſe of his Favour but to do as much Good as he can, without prejudicing the Intereſts of the King whom he ſerves with Gratitude, Affection, and Zeal. He is a generous Miniſter, and his Houſe is open to all Perſons of Diſtinction.

After he had ſerv'd as a Page, he was by the late King made a Gentleman of the Bed-Chamber; and not long after that, his preſent Majeſty, who was then ſtill Prince Royal, declar'd him Director of his Hunting Equipage, and truſted him with the Management of his Domeſtic Affairs. The late King alſo appointed him one of his Chamberlains.

At the famous Camp at *Zeithaim*, the Count commanded an Independent Company. He diſcover'd ſo great Application, and ſuch a happy Genius for the Art of War, that the late King, whoſe Penetration nothing cou'd eſcape, took it for a good Omen, and gave him a Regiment of Foot. Thus did the Count make his way towards the ſplendid Fortune which he now enjoys. M. *de Brubl* reſigning his Poſt of Great Maſter of the Wardrobe, ſoon after the King's Acceſſion to the Government, his Majeſty gave that Poſt to his Favourite. He afterwards call'd him to his Cabinet Council; and at his Coronation, he made him Knight of the Order of the White Eagle. After the Court's Re-

turn from *Cracow*, the Count went to the Army before *Dantzic*; where he gave demonſtration of his being as good a Soldier as he is an able Stateſman. It being not compatible with his Miniſtry to be long abſent, and *Dantzic* being on the point of capitulating, he went to give the King an account of the Succeſs of its Siege, and the Proſperity of his Arms. He accompanied his Majeſty to the Abbey of *Oliva*, and by his Prudence contributed very much to put ſuch *Poliſh* Lords in mind of their Obedience, who had thought of being exempted from it. And his only View being more and more to deſerve that Favour with which the King honours him, and being deſirous of having it in his power to ſerve him, as well in his Armies, as in his Cabinet, he went laſt of all to the Imperial Army, in order to qualify himſelf for a Command under Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*.

To complete the good Fortune of this Count, he married a Lady, who, beſides her Birth and perſonal Charms, has a Character which gains her the Applauſe and Veneration of all that know her. She is hereditary Baroneſs of *Stein*; and when he marry'd her, ſhe was Lady of Honour to the Queen. They are both Members of the *Roman* Catholic Church.

7. *Henry de Brubl*, Knight of the Orders of *Poland* and *Pruſſia*, a Member of the Privy-Council, Preſident of the Chamber of Finances, Director General of the Exciſe, and Vice-Preſident of the Taxes, is the Son of *John de Brubl*, who was of the Privy Council to *Auguſtus* II. and Grand Marſhal and Director of the Privy Council to the Duke Regent of *Saxe-Weiſſenfels*. He is by Birth a *Saxon*, and has a Brother who is Knight of the Teutonick Order. He made great progreſs at *Leipſic* in the *Belles Lettres*, and in the Exerciſes ſuitable to a Perſon of his Extraction. His Recre-

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ations there, were Muſic, and Converſation with Perſons of his own Taſte. He ſometimes made Verſes, which were eſteem'd for the bright Thoughts in them, and the Harmony of the Verſification. When he quitted *Leipſic*, he was enter'd Page to the late King: In this Poſt he behaved with ſo much Sobriety and Aſſiduity that his Majeſty ſoon diſtinguiſh'd him from the Crowd, admitted him to Familiarity with him; and finding he had a ſound Judgment, a quick Apprehenſion, a Penetration beyond what might be expected from one of his Age, and that he was a Perſon of Diſcretion, and inviolable Secrecy, join'd with a noble Freedom, and ſuch a happy way of expreſſing himſelf as to render the moſt difficult Subjects eaſy and pleaſant; he readily judg'd that ſuch a one was fit to be employ'd in great Affairs. He had a mind to inſtruct him; and having nominated him one of the Gentlemen of his Bed-Chamber, he had him under his Eye. M. *de Brubl* improv'd ſo well from the Leſſons of this great Maſter, ſo thoroughly ſtudy'd his Humour, and ſo exactly ſuited himſelf to his Genius, that he made himſelf neceſſary. His Application, his Love to Buſineſs, and the Eaſe with which he diſpatch'd it, won him the intire Confidence of *Auguſtus* II. who declar'd him Great Maſter of the Wardrobe, and a Privy Counſellor; and to him he moreover committed the Direction and Regulation of Affairs, Foreign and Domeſtic. Never had the King ſhewn more Affection or Eſteem for any of his Favourites; yet this Nobleman took ne'er the more State upon him for it, but living always humble, polite, and ready to do Services, he made himſelf Friends, and ſecur'd himſelf by that means againſt all the Hatred and Envy with which Courtiers are very ready to treat thoſe who are in Power.

When the King of *Pruſſia* went to the Camp at *Zeithaim*, he conferr'd his Order of the Black Eagle upon M. *de Brubl:* The late King alſo honour'd him with that of the White Eagle; but this was at a time when this Miniſter had no Reliſh for Honours, and wou'd have been glad to have renounc'd them for ever, if he cou'd thereby have prolong'd the Days of a Maſter ſo worthy of Immortality.

It was in thoſe laſt Moments, when the Profeſſions of Friendſhip cannot be ſo much as ſuſpected, that *Auguſtus* II. gave his Favourite his Order, as a certain Token that he retain'd a value for him even to Death. This great King having finiſh'd his glorious Career, M. *de Brubl*, without ſuffering himſelf to be too much caſt down, knowing that an Ocean of Tears was too little to ſhed for the Loſs he had ſuſtain'd, thought of nothing more than paying the due Devoirs to the dèceas'd Sovereign, and to the Prince, his Son and Succeſſor. Having therefore caus'd the Corpſe of the former to be embalm'd, and put a Seal upon all the Effects which belong'd to him, beſides ſecuring the Jewels and Papers of Conſequence; he came to *Dreſden* to join the Elector, now King of *Poland*, who received him with ſuch marks of Kindneſs, as were enough to have put the deceas'd Monarch out of the Miniſter's Thoughts, if his Gratitude had not dictated to him, that ſuch a King and ſuch a Maſter ought never to be forgot.

The King confirm'd him in all the Employments and Honours which he had held by the Favour of *Auguſtus* II. and moreover appointed him one of the Miniſters of his Cabinet. Some time after this, his Majeſty declar'd him Preſident of the Chamber of Finances; conſequently, this great, this true King, by diſtinguiſhing Merit, did farther Honour to the Memory of his auguſt Father, ſince he

he did what that magnanimous Prince wou'd have undoubtedly done for his Favourite.

At this time the Miniſter reſign'd to the King his Office of Great Maſter of the Wardrobe, which his various Occupations did not permit him to manage with that Care he thought was neceſſary. After the Return of the Court from *Cracow*, whither this Gentleman had accompany'd the King, he marry'd the Counteſs *de Collowrat*, one of the Queen's Ladys of Honour, whoſe high Birth was ſupported with ſuch perſonal Qualities as can never be enough commended. The Bride being a *Roman* Catholic, the Ceremony of the Marriage was performed at *Moritzbourg*, in preſence of their Majeſties, by the Biſhop of *Cracow*. Never was a Couple better match'd; the Lady's Perſon being a Collection of Charms, and M. *de Brubl* a Man of as noble Preſence as one wou'd wiſh to ſee; which he generally ſets off with a rich Dreſs of a good Fancy. No body at Court ſurpaſſes him in a generous way of living; for he keeps a noble Table, and at his Houſe Perſons of Diſtinction have their Aſſemblies. This Miniſter has ſomething ſo attracting in his Looks and Behaviour that he eaſily wins the Hearts of People who are the moſt indifferent to him. He is ſo polite, affable, and engaging, that he liſtens attentively to thoſe who lay their Wants before him, returns them courteous and diſtinct Anſwers; and whenever he is conſtrain'd to give a Denial, he does it in ſuch a manner as plainly demonſtrates his Concern that 'tis not in his power to oblige. And 'tis owing to this Good-nature of his, and to the Kindneſs with which he treats his Inferiours, that he can boaſt of poſſeſſing the Love and Veneration of the Public.

In ſhort, the Count *de Solkouſki* who has the firſt place in the Cabinet, and this Gentleman who has the ſecond, are the Miniſters who decide all Affairs

with the King's good Pleaſure. They are Gentlemen who know nothing of Jealouſy nor Envy; and, as they act from one and the ſame Principle, ſo they have both the ſame View, which is to increaſe, if poſſible, the Glory of the King, and the Happineſs of the Government.

The Office of all the abovemention'd, as Miniſters of the Cabinet, is ſo eminent at this Court that it gives thoſe who are inveſted with it the Precedence of all the Generals, both of Horſe and Foot.

Beſides theſe, there are three other Miniſters of the Cabinet, who, tho' retir'd from Court, enjoy the Rank and Penſions annex'd to the Miniſtry. They are the Count *de Manteuffel*, the Count *de Promnitz*, and the Marquiſs *de Fleuri*.

Earneſt Count *de Manteuffel*, Knight of the Order of the White Eagle, is deſcended of a Family which has been for a long time of diſtinguiſh'd Rank in *Pruſſian Pomerania*. He was Gentleman of the Bed-Chamber to *Frederic* I. King of *Pruſſia*. Certain Ballads being handed about at Court, which were inſulting Lampoons upon the Count *de Wartemberg*, the King's Prime Miniſter and Favourite, M. *de Manteuffel* was charged with being the Author of 'em; who knowing that the Favourite wou'd not put up with the Affront, retir'd to *Saxony*, where the Count *de Flemming*, who then bore the greateſt ſway at the King of *Poland*'s Court, receiv'd him as his Countryman, and employ'd him in foreign Affairs; which he managed with the Approbation both of his Majeſty and the foreign Miniſters he had to treat with. M. *de Manteuffel* kept in with the Favourite without giving into the Flattery which that Miniſter expected from his Creatures; and while the King was Vicar of the Empire, he made M. *de Manteuffel* a Count of the Empire. His Majeſty had ſome time before ho-

nour'd

nour'd him with the Order of the White Eagle, and preferr'd him to his Cabinet Council; and after Marſhal *Flemming*'s Death, M. *de Manteuffel* had the principal Direction of the foreign Affairs. But this able Miniſter, and one of the chief Ornaments and Confidents of the late King's Court, retir'd from it in 1730, to his Eſtate in *Pomerania*, and now reſides at *Berlin*; where he ſtill enjoys a Penſion of 24000 Crowns, or 12000 Rixdollars, which was ſecur'd to him by the preſent Elector. It adds to his Character that after he was retir'd, the Want of him was lamented.

He is pretty tall, well ſet, has a grand Air, and is one of the handſomeſt Men that I have ſeen. His Behaviour is noble and eaſy, he has a good Fund of Learning, an extraordinary Memory, and ſuch a Happineſs of expreſſing himſelf that when he talks he never fails to give Pleaſure. He lives nobly, and when he was at *Dreſden* his Houſe was open to all Perſons of Diſtinction and Merit. He marry'd a Baroneſs of *Pludouſka*, who is, as well as himſelf, of the *Lutheran* Religion.

Erdmann, Count *de Promnitz*, is more at his Eſtate than at Court; he is alſo Knight of the Order of the White Eagle. He marry'd a Princeſs of *Saxe-Weiſſenfels*. He always diſtinguiſh'd himſelf by his Zeal, and his Attachment to the Royal Family; of which he gave Proofs by raiſing an Independent Company at his own Expence, for the Service of the late King, which he ſent to reinforce his Majeſty's Troops in the Camp before *Zeithaim*: And for the ſame Uſe he has ſince rais'd a Regiment of Horſe.

Francis Vicardel, Marquiſs *de Fleuri* and *de Beaufort*, is a *Savoyard*. He was the King of *Sardinia*'s Miniſter, and his Envoy to the Court of *Vienna*, when the late King of *Poland* invited him into his Service, admitted him to his Cabinet Coun-

cil, and made him a Knight of his Order. This Miniſter is endow'd with all the Talents that can be deſir'd in a Man who has an Employment. He has an agreeable Aſpect, engaging Manners, a juſt Diſcernment, a quick Apprehenſion, and a very even Temper. But his frequent Ailments diſabling him from the Exerciſe of his Talents, he deſir'd, and obtain'd leave to retire to his Eſtate in *Savoy*; and the late King, who had always a great and noble Soul, being deſirous that he ſhou'd be a Witneſs of his Goodneſs and Royal Magnificence, ſecur'd the Enjoyment of his Penſions to him; which the preſent King has alſo been pleaſed to confirm.

Another of the Cabinet Miniſters, who was alſo formerly Prime Miniſter to the late King of *Poland*, was the Count *de Hoym*, deſcended from one of the principal Families in *Saxony*, and Brother to the Gentleman that marry'd Madame *de Coſel*. I knew him intimately before he was advanced to the Miniſtry, at *Paris*, and at *Vienna*, as well as here at *Dreſden*. You muſt have ſeen him in *Sileſia*, where he has a very fine Eſtate. There is not a Miniſter at this Court more civil, more learned, or a better Friend to learned Men. During his long Reſidence at *Paris* as Ambaſſador from the King of *Poland*, his Houſe was open to all Men of Learning as it is now at *Dreſden*; and he had the ſplendid Title given him of the *Mecænas* of *Saxony* *.

They

* He was diſgrac'd in 1731, upon which he retir'd to his Eſtate. The Cataſtrophe of this Gentleman is ſo tragical an Incident that it will be proper to give a ſhort but true Hiſtory of it, as it is related in the following Circular Letter, wrote by the King of *Poland*'s Order, to his Miniſters abroad, for the Information of all the Foreign Courts. The Letter was dated at *Warſaw*, the 12th of *May*, O. S. 1736, as follows.

SIR,

They who are actually PRIVY COUNSELLORS, or MINISTERS OF STATE here, are eight in number. They are deſcended from ſome of the beſt Families in *Saxony*, and profeſs the Proteſtant Religion. The Detail of their Characters, their Experience, and their Merit, wou'd oblige me to tranſgreſs the Limits of this Work, were I only to treat of thoſe who are bound by their Employments to attend the King's Perſon, and who compoſe his Majeſty's Houſhold. But for the Reputation of the Privy Council, 'tis proper juſt to obſerve that all its Members are Subjects who do Honour to the King's Choice; that they are vigilant for promoting

SIR,

'THE tragical Death of the Count *de Hoym* having been variouſly reported both in printed Papers and written Letters, and with Circumſtances not ſtrictly true; the King has order'd me to give you an exact Information of this Affair.

'You will remember what the late King, of glorious Memory, ſignified to his Miniſters abroad, concerning the Reaſons and Circumſtances that preceded, accompanied and followed the Diſgrace of the Count *de Hoym*.

'This Count having been a ſecond time arreſted for other Crimes, after the Death of the late King, was committed in 1733, to *Sonnenſtein*, from whence the preſent King was ſo merciful as to releaſe him ſome Weeks after; contenting himſelf to bind him again by Oaths ſtronger than the former; whereby the Count obliged himſelf to continue quiet at his Eſtate, without concerning himſelf with any but his own private Affairs.

'Yet towards the cloſe of the Year 1734, and at the time when the King was in *Poland*, the Count, notwithſtanding his Engagements, took the Opportunity of his Majeſty's Abſence, to ſet on foot other Intrigues, in defiance of his Oaths and his Promiſes; whereof the King being timely inform'd, order'd him to be arreſted and committed Priſoner to *Konigſtein*; which was the reaſon of his attempting his Life by a Piſtol, whereof I acquainted you by my Circular Letter of the 15th of *January*, 1735.

'An Information was afterwards preparing for the Trial of him and his Accomplices; but not many days after the firſt Examination, the ſaid Count being ſtung by the Remorſe of

his

ting the Good of the Public, and that in their Deliberations they manifeſt their Zeal for the King, and their Affection to their Country.

The Preſident of this Council, is *Alexander de Miltitz de Scharffenberg*, who is a Native of *Saxony*, the ſame that was the King's Governour; of whom ſo much has been already ſaid, that I avoid to make any more particular mention of him here.

Two of the Privy Counſellors are Counſellors of the Conferences, which are held in preſence of his Majeſty, *viz. Gotlob Frederic* Baron *de Gerſdorff*, and *Bernard* Baron *de Zech*. The former comes from an ancient Family of Diſtinction, which has

'his Conſcience, and vexed to ſee all his Pranks laid open, 'choſe to ſhorten the Courſe of Juſtice by putting an end to 'his own Life, notwithſtanding the undeniable Proofs he had 'before experienc'd of his Majeſty's Clemency. For this purpoſe 'he firſt pretended to be ſick, and having order'd his Domeſtics 'not to diſturb him, he hang'd himſelf the 21ſt of *April* laſt, 'at Night, with a Handkerchief ty'd to a Hook that ſup-'ported his Looking-glaſs. The Letter he wrote to his Do-'meſtics with a Pencil, and which was found upon the Floor, 'is an indiſputable Mark of the deliberate Purpoſe and cold 'Blood with which he executed this Deſign. Moreover, in 'ſearching his Pockets a Razor was found on him, with a Pen-'knife, Scizzars, and the like Inſtruments.

'The Family of the Deceas'd having petition'd the King 'not to proceed againſt the Corpſe with the Severity of the 'Law, his Majeſty has been ſo good as to order the Body of the 'Self-murderer to be privately interr'd, juſt without the Church-'Yard of the Garriſon at the Fort of *Konigſtein*.'

I am, &c.

The Night before the Count diſpatch'd himſelf, he left a Note upon his Table for his two Servants, as follows:

'BE prudent, make no Noiſe or Alarm, untie me immedi-'ately, put me to Bed, and then ſhut the Door after you, 'by bolting it when you are out, which you may do by the help 'of this Pack-thread; and by this means no body will know 'you have been in my Chamber. The world will doubtleſs be-'lieve I dy'd of an Apoplexy; if you perform my Orders diſ-'creetly and faithfully, my Family will pay you 1000 Ducats, 'on ſight of this Note.

has given ſeveral great Men to this State. The latter has acquitted himſelf with Succeſs in the ſeveral Negociations wherein he has been employ'd. They are both laborious, vigilant, upright Men, and of great Experience in Buſineſs.

The King's GREAT OFFICERS *are,*

I. The GRAND MARSHAL; which Office is now held by *Waldemar*, Baron *de Lowendahl*, who has under him

The Gentlemen of the Bed-Chamber,	The Comedians,
The Pages,	The Trumpeters,
The Huntſmen,	The Footmen,
The Muſicians of the Chapel and the Chamber,	The *Turks*,
	The *Heydukes*,
	The Meſſengers,
	The *Negroes*;
The Dancers,	

and in ſhort, a conſiderable number of other Officers and Domeſtics of the King's Houſhold. His Juriſdiction extends not only over thoſe that I have mention'd, but alſo over all Foreigners of Quality who happen to be at *Dreſden*; and there is a Tribunal or Court for this purpoſe, of which the Great Chamberlain, the Great Maſter of the Kitchens, the Great Cup-Bearer and the Marſhal of the Court are Members.

II. The GREAT CHAMBERLAIN; who is at preſent *Henry-Frederic* Count of *Frieſland*. 'Tis he that receives the Ambaſſadors and other foreign Miniſters, and introduces them to an Audience of the King. He has under him the ſeveral Chamberlains.

III. The MASTER of the HORSE, *Alexander-Joſeph* Count *de Sulkowſki*, is in poſſeſſion of this Office, which is one of the beſt and nobleſt Employmen-

ployments at Court, the Perſon who is inveſted with it being ſerv'd by the King's Equipages and Livery, and having the diſpoſal of all the inferior Offices appertaining to the Stables. He has under him the Equerries, the Prickers, and all the Workmen employ'd for the Service of the Stables, and the making of the Equipages.

He that is the only chief Equerry is *Adolphus de Brubl*, one of the King's Chamberlains. He officiates in the abſence of the Maſter of the Horſe, is Brother to *Henry de Brubl* Miniſter of the Cabinet, and reſembles him in Candour and Integrity. His Honeſty, which is imprinted on his very Countenance, reflects a Luſtre on all his Actions. He is ſo ſenſible of the Charms of Friendſhip that he fulfils all the Obligations of it; and beſides thoſe Qualities of the Mind, he makes an agreeable Appearance, is dextrous in his Exerciſes, has a ſolid Reliſh of the Arts and Sciences, is perfect Maſter of Muſic, and plays on ſeveral Inſtruments.

He was heretofore in the ſervice of the Duke Regent of *Weiſſenfels*, and next in that of the Duke of *Saxe-Weimar*, who had ſuch an Eſteem for his Merit that to him he referred the Direction of his Court. Nevertheleſs he left this Prince, and enter'd into the ſervice of the late King, who conferr'd thoſe Employments on him which he now enjoys. Since he came to Court, he married a young Lady of Quality of the Family of *Opelen*, whoſe Fortune and Charms into the bargain made her ſuch a conſiderable Match that ſhe did not want Suitors.

IV. The GREAT HUNTSMAN. The Gentleman who at preſent poſſeſſes this Office, one of the moſt lucrative at Court, is *Charles de Leubnitz*. It gives him the Superintendance over all the Officers of the Venery, in which Number are included the Rangers, the Verdurers, the Gentlemen and Pages, and

and above a hundred Huntſmen or other Perſons depending on them. The Great Huntſman is a Proteſtant, as well as his Lady, who is of the Family of *Schaurot*.

V. The GREAT MASTER of the KITCHENS is *Adolphus* Baron *de Seyffertitz*, of a Family which has been for a long time diſtinguiſhed in this Electorate. His firſt Step at Court was in the Employment of Gentleman of the Bed-Chamber. *Auguſtus* II. at the requeſt of the late Czar *Peter the Great*, plac'd him Governor to the Czarowitz when that young Prince came into *Germany*. He continued in this Poſt till after the Marriage of the Czarowitz to the Princeſs of *Brunſwic-Wolfembuttle-Blanckenbourg*. After his return to *Saxony* he accompanied the late King to *Berlin*, when his Majeſty together with *Frederic* IV. King of *Denmark*, went thither to make a viſit to *Frederic* I. King of *Pruſſia*. In 1711, M. *de Seyffertitz* was appointed Marſhal of the Embaſſy which *Auguſtus* II. ſent to *Francfort*, for the Election of an Emperor. His Imperial Majeſty *Charles* VI. at the Ceremony of his Coronation, made him a Knight of the Empire, and at length the late King made him one of his Chamberlains, and then Great Maſter of the Kitchens, which Office he manages with Dignity and Politeneſs. He married a Lady of the Family of *Haxthauſen*, Widow of the Count *de Beichling* the Great Faulconer. They are both of the *Lutheran* Communion.

In the abſence of the Grand Marſhal, the Great Maſter of the Kitchens officiates, and at the grand Ceremonies wears like him a Staff tipp'd with Silver gilt. Under his Province are the Comptrollers of the Kitchen and of the Houſhold, the Clerks of the Kitchen, the Purveyors, the Cooks and Turnſpits, the Paſtry-Cooks, the Purſers, Fiſhmongers, *&c.*

VI.

VI. The GREAT CUPBEARER is *John Adolphus de Haugwitz*, a Gentleman of good Extraction. His Father was Grand Marſhal to the late King. He is a handſome Man, has a noble Mien, performs all ſorts of Exerciſes with a Grace and with Dexterity, and does the Honours of the Court in a becoming manner. He is of the Proteſtant Religion, and married to a Lady of the Family of *Beiſt*. His Employment ſets him above all the Officers of the King's Buttery, Cellar, and Pantry. In the abſence of the Grand Marſhal and the Maſter of the Kitchens, he officiates for them, and at great Ceremonies he carries like them a Staff of Silver gilt.

VII. The GREAT FAULCONER is an Office held by *Anthony* Count *de Moſchinſki*, a *Poliſh* Nobleman, and a *Roman* Catholic. He was formerly Page to the King, and attended his Majeſty in his Tours to *France* and *Italy*, where he acquir'd great Politeneſs, and a very engaging Deportment. At his return to *Dreſden*, he was made one of the Gentlemen of the Bed-Chamber to the King, who was then the Prince Royal. Afterwards the late King appointed him one of his Chamberlains; and when the Count *de Fitzthum* unhappily loſt his life at *Warſaw*, his Majeſty who had given his Office of Great Chamberlain to the Count *de Frieſland*, beſtow'd that of *Great Faulconer* which was held by that Nobleman, upon the Count *de Moſchinſki*, who was grac'd almoſt at the ſame time with the Order of the *White-Eagle*, and the Poſt of Treaſurer to the Court of *Poland*. His Majeſty alſo granted him in Marriage one of his natural Children, the Daughter of the Counteſs *de Coſel*. Never was a Perſon more deſerving of Honours than the Great Faulconer, who is truly magnificent, and makes ſuch an Appearance, that he does an Honour to his Character. By his Behaviour he engages the Friendſhip and Regard of all that have to do with him. He has under

under his command the Officers of the Faulconry or Mews where the Hawks are kept, the Faulconers, and in general all thoſe Perſons that have any relation to the Faulconry.

VIII. The GREAT MASTER of the WARDROBE is *Alexander-Joſeph* Count *de Sulkowſki*. He has under his Juriſdiction the *Catholic* Clergy, the *Phyſicians* of the *Body*, the *Footmen*, the *Secretaries*, *Writers* and *Clerks* of the *Chamber*, the *Inſpectors* of the *Chamber* of *Curioſities*, the *Uſhers* of the *Chamber* and of the *King's Cloſet*, his *Peruke-makers*, *Surgeons* and *Taylors*, the *Negroes*, *Dwarfs*, and *Pages* of the *Back-Stairs*, the *Architects*, *Engineers* and *Deſigners*.

IX. The POSTMASTER-GENERAL is *Maurice-Charles* Count *de Linar*, who is alſo one of the Chamberlains, and a Knight of the Order of St. *John*. He is deſcended from a Family which has been of Eminence for a long time in this Electorate. His good Mien is anſwerable to his Birth, and by his Politeneſs, his Manners, and his Expences, he does an Honour to the Prince that employs him. The King, after his Coronation, ſent him to *Muſcovy* to notify the Accompliſhment of that Ceremony to the Empreſs of the *Ruſſians*, and he ſtill continues at that Princeſs's Court, to take care of his Maſter's Intereſts, which he does in a way that cannot but turn to his own Advantage, and the Honour of the King. * This Gentleman was alſo employ'd by the late King at the Court of *Pruſſia*, and at the *Britiſh* Court when at *Hanover*, and always diſcharg'd his Commiſſions with ſuch Succeſs as was crown'd with his Majeſty's Approbation.

X. The MARSHAL of the COURT is *John-George d'Einſiedel*, who is alſo a Privy-Counſellor, and a Gentleman of a good Family, his Anceſtors having poſ-

* In *October* 1736, he return'd to *Dreſden*.

poſſeſſed the chief Offices of the State. He has viſited the principal Courts of *Europe*, where he contracted that polite Turn which is ſeen in his Behaviour. He is a handſome Man, has a noble Air, and his Demeanour is anſwerable. He knows a great deal, and performs all the academical Exerciſes very well. He married the Daughter of the General Count *de Flemming* Governor of *Leipſic*, who was a rich Heireſs, and to be valued for the Qualities of her Mind. The Marſhal of the Court and his Lady are both of the *Lutheran* Communion. His Office joins him in Commiſſion with the Grand Marſhal, the Great Maſter of the Kitchens, and the Great Cup-Bearer; and like thoſe Officers he carries the ſhort Staff of Silver gilt at the grand Ceremonies. 'Tis commonly he that makes the Court-Entertainments.

Curt d'Einſiedel Marſhal of the Court, and one of the Chamberlains, is remarked for his genteel Mien and Extraction. His good Qualities and Deportment render him worthy of all Employments. He is of the eſtabliſh'd Religion of *Saxony*, and lately married Madamoiſelle *de Schoneberg de Maxen*, whoſe Perſonal Charms are an Ornament to the Court.

Erneſt-Ferdinand d'Erdmandſdorff, Marſhal of the King's Houſhold, and one of the Chamberlains, has procur'd himſelf Eſteem by his Merit as well as his good Birth and Breeding. Beſides his Knowledge of various kinds which qualifies him for Buſineſs, he is Maſter of ſeveral Languages, particularly the *French*. He marry'd a Lady of the Family of *Heſler*, and they are both of the *Lutheran* Religion.

XI. The CHAMBERLAINS. Of theſe there are too many to be all mention'd here, ſo that I ſhall only take notice of the twelve Penſioners who are in waiting about their Majeſties, and without regarding the Seniority of their Admittance. They com-

commonly attend the King and Queen, each a whole Week in their turn, and have the Rank of Major-Generals. The fineſt Prerogative of their Employment, is the Honour of eating with their Majeſties when they are in Waiting, and of being the Depoſitaries of the Petitions which are preſented to the King in his Paſſage.

1. *Henry Rodolph de Schonfeld*, Lord of *Lowenitz*, is the King's firſt Chamberlain. He has a fine Preſence and Behaviour, and a ſweet and amiable Temper. He keeps a handſome Table and Equipage, ſuitable to his Fortune. He attended the King, by his Majeſty's Order, to *Cracow*, and laſtly to *Oliva*.

2. *Helmuth de Pleſk* is of a Family in the Dutchy of *Holſtein*, of ſome Note for their great Eſtate there, and for the Rank they bear at the Court of *Denmark*, where ſeveral Lords of *Pleſk* are in the Miniſtry. The Gentleman here mention'd is actually the King's Envoy Extraordinary to the Court of *Denmark*.

3. *Auguſtus-Henry Gottlab*, Count *de Callenberg*, is of this Electorate, where his Family has for a long time enjoy'd a conſiderable Rank, and a fine Eſtate. He has been the King's Envoy Extraordinary to the Courts of *France*, *Bruſſels*, *Cologn*, *Triers*, and the Elector *Palatine*, to notify the Death of the late King, and the Acceſſion of their preſent Majeſties to the Electorate. He marry'd the Counteſs of *Boſe*, lives nobly, and adorns the Court by his Politeneſs. He is of the Proteſtant Communion.

4. *John-George de Carlowitz* is of the ſame Religion. He is a *Saxon*, and marry'd to Mademoiſelle *de Neitſch*. He has a peculiar Talent of gaining the Love of all Mankind; which he owes to his Travels, and to his natural Genius.

5. *Frederic-Auguſtus de Brandſtein*, after having finiſh'd his Studies at *Wittenberg*, travell'd to good

purpoſe, to the principal Countries of *Europe*. At his return the late King declar'd him a Gentleman of his Bed-Chamber, and ſome time after one of his Chamberlains. He is well deſcended, and what is convenient for a Courtier, he adheres to the Religion which is upermoſt in the State.

6. *Detler-Henry d'Einſiedel*, Brother to the Marſhal of the Court, honours his Name by his perſonal Qualities. He is a handſome tall Gentleman, has a grand Preſence, and few Gentlemen ſurpaſs him in Good-Manners, Addreſs, and polite Literature. He ſtudy'd at *Wittenberg*, and afterwards made a Viſit to the principal Courts of *Europe*: The laſt he made was to that of *Sweden*, whither he was ſent by the King to notify the Death of his late Majeſty, and the Acceſſion of his preſent Majeſty to the Electorate.

7. *Sigiſmond d'Arnim*, is not only one of the King's Chamberlains, but Colonel of a Regiment of Horſe. He is of an antient Family which has Lands in *Luſatia*. His Employments are owing both to his Birth and perſonal Merit. He is of the Religion of the Country.

8. *Maximilian*, Count *d'Herzan*, is of *Bohemia*. The late Counteſs his Mother was the Queen's firſt Lady of Honour, and attended her Majeſty hither from *Vienna*. He is able to cut a Figure at Court, but is abſent above half of his time; and is a *Roman* Catholic.

9. *Charles-Chriſtian de Minckwitz*, is a Gentleman of a fine Mein. As he has been a great Traveller, he has acquir'd a great ſhare of Knowledge and Politeneſs. He was born a *Saxon*, but has embreac'd the *Roman* Catholic Faith; tho' he has defeated himſelf by it of the Reverſion of a conſiderable Inheritance.

10. *Henry-Auguſtus de Breitenbauch*, is a Gentleman of fine Senſe and Manners ſuitable to his Ex-

traction. Such is his good Taſte and Skill in Muſic that he has been ſingled out for the Direction of the King's Pleaſures. He is of the Communion of the Country, and marry'd to a Lady of the Family of *Schonberg*.

11. *Nicholas-Schwizinſki* is a Native of *Poland*; he has valuable Qualities, and a great Attachment to the *Roman* Catholic Religion.

12. *N. N. de Sebgutt-Staniſlawſki* is of a Family which was formerly poſſeſs'd of a great Eſtate in *Sileſia*, with the Title of the Counts *de Sebgutt*, till the Conqueſt of the Country by the *Teutonic* Knights, when his Anceſtors remov'd to *Pruſſia*; and ſpreading afterwards in *Poland*, they aſſum'd the Name of *Staniſlawſki*, as what was more agreeable to the *Poles*. This Chamberlain is a Perſon of ſtrict Honeſty and Integrity, without any manner of Guile. He ſpent his Youth at the Academy of *Berlin* which was erected by King *Frederic* I. and afterwards enter'd as Gentleman of the Bed-Chamber to *Auguſtus* II. who not many Years after made him a Chamberlain of *Poland*, and put him upon the Eſtabliſhment of *Saxony*; and when the preſent King came to the Government, he continued him in his Employment. His Majeſty alſo made choice of him to attend him to *Cracow*, and laſtly to *Oliva*.

XII. Of the STEWARD of the QUEEN'S HOUSHOLD. Since the Queen's Arrival at *Dreſden*, there have been four Stewards of her Majeſty's Houſhold. The Count *de Diedrichſtein* was the firſt that had this Place, which he reſign'd for the Grand Priory of *Bohemia*. His Succeſſor was the Count *de Konigſegg* who actually commands the Emperor's Army in *Lombardy*. This General being recall'd to *Vienna*, was replac'd by the Count de *Wratiſlau*, and he by the Count *de Waldſtein* who lately quitted that Poſt to go and take Poſſeſſion of

the Office of *Landſhauptmann*, or Intendant of *Sileſia*, which was conferr'd on him by the Emperor. The Count *de Wratiſlaw*, who has the care of his Imperial Majeſty's Affairs at this Court, officiates there again as Steward. This is the Officer who leads the Queen, and gives Orders to all her Officers and Domeſtics, and who muſt be apply'd to by thoſe that ſolicite for an Audience of her Majeſty.

XIII. The *Queen's firſt Lady of Honour*, is *Thereſa* Baroneſs of *Stein*, and Counteſs Dowager of *Collowrat*; who honours her Station by her Virtues, and by the Dignity with which ſhe fills it. The late Count *de Collowrat* her Huſband was Great Chamberlain of *Bohemia*, and one of the chief Noblemen of that Kingdom. This Lady, his Relict, is a *Roman* Catholic, and is ſuch in an exemplary manner. Thoſe Ladies who want to kiſs the Queen's Hand, or to pay their Duty to her, muſt apply to this Lady, who introduces and preſents them. She has the Precedence before all other Ladies, and only yields it to the Princeſſes of the Blood.

XIV. Of the *Governeſs of the Ladies of Honour, and of the Ladies of Honour themſelves.* In the Abſence of the firſt Lady of Honour, the Governeſs of the Ladies officiates. The Baroneſs Dowager of *Rohr* worthily fills this Station, and has under her ſix Ladies, two of whom, *viz.* the Counteſſes of *Waldſtein* and *Kokerſowitz*, are Ladies of the Bed-Chamber; a Title which procures them Admittance to the Queen's Cloſet. All the Ladies of Honour muſt always appear in the Court-Dreſs. Their manner of Living is ſuch that it obliges Calumny itſelf to reſpect them.

XV. Of the *Lords and Ladies that are attach'd to the Court by their Offices, or by the Favours of the King.*

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Tho' the *Poliſh* Lords cannot be put upon the Eſtabliſhment of the Court of *Saxony*, that there may be nothing in common between the two States, yet it may be thought inexcuſable not to mention in this place *John-Alexander Lipſki*, Biſhop of *Cracow*, Duke of *Servia*, and Great Chancellor of *Poland*; not only becauſe this Prelate, who is deſcended from one of the beſt Families in the Kingdom, was appointed Biſhop of *Cracow* by the late King, but becauſe he has given ſignal Proofs of his Gratitude and Attachment to the auguſt Family of his Benefactor. The Virtues of this Gentleman intitle him to Reſpect: He is pious without Hypocriſy, generous without Oſtentation, magnificent without Pageantry, officious meerly for the Pleaſure of obliging, a Courtier without Servility, a Man ſtrictly attach'd to his King and his Country, learned without being poſitive, a great Orator, a good Biſhop, and a wiſe Miniſter, always ready to embrace a good Propoſal, and firm to ſupport it, laborious, vigilant, acting only out of Principle, and by conſequence ſuſceptible of Friendſhip, and ſcorning Revenge. The late King, out of his Eſteem for the Qualities of this Prelate, made him Biſhop of *Cracow*, Great Chancellor of *Poland*, and honour'd him with his Order of the White Eagle. By this means he ſo rivetted him to his Intereſt, and to that of the Prince his Son, that after his Majeſty's Deceaſe, his moſt Reverend Highneſs directed Affairs in ſuch a manner that the Republic choſe his Son for their King. *Auguſtus* II. being proclaim'd accordingly, the Prince and Biſhop was appointed Head of the Embaſſy which the States of the Kingdom ſent to the new Monarch at *Tarnowitz*, to carry him the Diploma of his Election. He ſpoke upon this occaſion with a noble Eloquence, rendering to their Majeſties all due Reſpects, and yet maintaining the Dignity of the moſt Serene

Republic. Having diſcharg'd this Commiſſion, he went before the King to *Cracow*, made his Entry there, and took poſſeſſion of the Biſhoprick. Some days after this, he conſecrated and crown'd their Majeſties in his Metropolis. When the King return'd to *Saxony*, the Prelate followed him, and attended him to *Oliva*; and 'twas he that received the Allegiance and Homage of the *Dantzickers* to his Majeſty. He is ſince come hither to rejoin the Court, is belov'd, reverenc'd, and every one does Juſtice to his Virtues.

Charles-Lewis, Prince of *Holſtein-Beck*, Colonel in the Service of the King, and Knight of the Order of the White Eagle, is the ſecond Son of the late *Lewis-Frederic* Veldt-Marſhal of *Pruſſia*, Governour of *Koningſberg*, and Knight of the Order of the Elephant. This Prince marry'd *Anne* Counteſs of *Orſelſka*, the legitimated Daughter of the late King.

George-Ignatius, Prince *de Lubomirſki*, Sword-Bearer of the Crown, Lieutenant-General of the King's Forces, Colonel of the Life-Guards, and Knight of the Order of the White Eagle, is deſcended from a Family of very great Diſtinction in *Poland*. After he return'd from his Travels, being attach'd to the Court of *Auguſtus* II. he marry'd the Daughter of the Count *de Fitzthum*, who was Great Chamberlain; a Lady of ſuch Beauty, ſuch perſonal Charms, and ſuch fine Senſe, that ſhe engages the Veneration of all that know her. Prince *Lubomirſki* is a jolly handſome Man, very polite, thinks and acts agreeable to his Birth, has a good ſhare of Literature, and is perfect Maſter of Muſic. He lives in a handſome manner very ſuitable to his Rank.

The *Princeſs* of *Teſchen* is a *Poliſh* Lady, and ally'd to the greateſt Families in the Kingdom. Her Uncle was the famous Cardinal *Radjowſki*, Arch-

Archbiſhop *Gneſna*, and Primate of the Kingdom. She was formerly marry'd to Prince *Lubomirſki*, Great Chamberlain of the Crown; but the Marriage was diſſolved, ſo that ſhe quitted the Name of *Lubomirſki* for that of *Teſchen*, which ſhe ſtill bears, tho' ſhe afterwards marry'd Prince *Lewis* of *Wirtemberg*. This Princeſs ſupports her Rank with Dignity, has a grand Air, is reſpected for a noble diſtinguiſh'd and engaging Behaviour, and lives in ſo handſome a manner, that ſhe is one of the moſt ſhining Ornaments of this Court.

Joſepha Counteſs *de Lagnaſco* is the Daughter of the Count *de Wallenſtein*, who was Great Chamberlain to the Emperor *Joſeph*, and one of the moſt worthy Noblemen of the Imperial Court, by *Eleonora* Counteſs of *Loſenſtein*; a Lady whoſe Memory is with Juſtice rever'd by all *Vienna*. The Counteſs *de Lagnaſco* was the Widow of Count *Thaun*, when ſhe marry'd the late Count *de Lagnaſco*, Miniſter of the Cabinet to *Auguſtus* II. General of the *Saxon* Cavalry, Captain of the Horſe-Guards, and Knight of the Order of the White Eagle. Since that Nobleman's Deceaſe, which was in *April* 1732, his Widow has always liv'd at *Dreſden*; where ſhe enjoys the Eſteem of their Majeſties, and the Veneration of the Courtiers. This Counteſs is Miſtreſs of ſeveral Languages to Perfection, thoroughly underſtands Muſic, and ſings with Grace and Method. Her noble generous way of living, and her graceful and diſtinguiſh'd Behaviour cannot be expreſs'd, nor indeed equall'd to any thing but the Goodneſs of her Temper. The late Count *de Lagnaſco* was of a good Stature, and his Behaviour polite and civil. I think you know that he was of a Family in *Piedmont* of ſome Diſtinction. How, or when he firſt enter'd into the Service of the King of *Poland*, I cannot tell you; but I know that he preſently inſinuated him-

ſelf into his Maſter's Favour, by his very great Aſſiduity, agreeable Temper, and by a vaſt Complaiſance to enter into his Pleaſures. He eſtabliſh'd himſelf ſo firmly in the King's Favour that the Count *de Flemming* look'd upon him as the only Rival he had to fear, and therefore he never much lik'd him. The Count *de Lagnaſco* was employ'd in ſeveral Embaſſies; and when he had finiſh'd that at *Rome*, which was his laſt, there was a Talk that he was to go Ambaſſador to *Vienna*, and that the young Count *de Wackerbart* was to go to *Rome*. I muſt farther acquaint you that M. *de Lagnaſco* was happy in all reſpects, even in Marriage, not only with his firſt, but his ſecond Wife, who, when he marry'd her, was a young, rich, briſk Widow. His firſt Wife was the Daughter of the Count *de Noyelles*, Lieutenant-General in *Holland*, a Lady of great Virtue, eſteem'd by all the People at the *Hague*, and poſſeſs'd of a conſiderable Eſtate, of which, dying young, and without Iſſue, ſhe made her Huſband ſole Heir.

Francis, Count *de Montmorency*, is a Name too well known to ſpeak of his Extraction. He was a Colonel in *France* when he went into the Service of *Auguſtus* II. who receiv'd him with that Demonſtration of Eſteem which that King was ſo ready to grant to Perſons of Merit. His Majeſty firſt appointed him Major-General of his Forces, and ſome time after he declar'd him a Lieutenant-General, and Captain of his Horſe-Guards. At that time the Count marry'd Madame *Potſchin*, Widow of the Great General of *Lithuania*; a Lady whoſe Birth, Qualities, and Fortune, recommended her for a very conſiderable Match. The Counteſs *de Montmorency*, in the time of her former Huſband, went to *Paris* for the Recovery of her Health, and receiv'd extraordinary Honours at the *French* Court, where ſhe was admir'd for her Politeneſs,

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the Delicacy of her Sentiments, and the Eaſe with which ſhe expreſs'd them in the Language of *France*; from whence they conceiv'd an advantagious Idea of the Court of *Auguſtus* II. not imagining how 'twas poſſible for the Manners of a Foreign Lady ſo much to reſemble their own. She is alſo as much rever'd at *Dreſden* as at *Paris*; and all that know her, agree ſhe is highly to be valued for her Sentiments.

Antoinetta of *Lichtenſtein*, Counteſs of *Wallenſtein*, is Wife to *Leopold* Count *de Wallenſtein*, heretofore Great Maſter of the Queen's Houſhold; a Lady both belov'd and honour'd at this place, for her Virtues and civil Deportment; and as ſhe is preparing to follow her Huſband into *Sileſia*, ſhe will carry with her the Eſteem of their Majeſties, and leave the Court ſorry for her Abſence.

XVI. *Of the Foreign Miniſters who reſide at this Court.*

Francis-Charles Count *de Wratiſlaw*, one of the Emperor's Privy Council, and Knight of the Orders of *Ruſſia* and *Poland*, reſides at this Court in quality of Ambaſſador from his Imperial and Catholic Majeſty. He is deſcended from one of the greateſt Families in the Kingdom of *Bohemia*, and a Family which has given wiſe Miniſters to the auguſt Houſe of *Auſtria*. This Gentleman has been for a long time in the Management of the moſt important Affairs: He was Ambaſſador for the Kingdom of *Bohemia* to the Dyet of the Empire at *Ratiſbon*: From thence he went in the ſame Character to *Poland*, where he was preſent at the Dyet of *Grodno*. The Emperor afterwards nam'd him Great Maſter of the Houſhold to the Princeſs Royal and Electoral, now Queen of *Poland*. The Count having worthily acquitted himſelf of that Office, was for ſeveral Years Ambaſſador

baſſador at *Ruſſia*, where he concluded that happy Alliance ſubſiſting between the two Empires, and acquired the Eſteem of the Empreſs, who honour'd him with her Order of St. *Andrew*; *Auguſtus* II. having before given him that of the White Eagle.

This Miniſter, ſince his Return from *Muſcovy*, has moreover been charg'd by the Emperor with important Commiſſions to the Courts of *Pruſſia*, *Brunſwic*, and *Holſtein*. At length he is come back again to this Court, as Ambaſſador from his Imperial and Catholic Majeſty; and officiates alſo as Great Maſter of the Queen's Houſhold. This Nobleman is of a middling Stature, of a happy Phyſiognomy, is civil, beneficent, and loves Grandeur and Pleaſures, but does not abandon himſelf to them ſo far as to neglect the Intereſts of his Maſter, whoſe Affairs he negociates with a noble Candour which has render'd him as much eſteem'd at the Courts where he has reſided, as he is beloved for his Affability and Politeneſs. His Wife is the Counteſs of *Kinſki*, whoſe Father was Great Chancellor of *Bohemia*, under the Emperor *Leopold*, and whoſe Brother is now in that Office under the moſt Auguſt *Charles* VI.

Hermann-Charles Keyſerling, Plenipotentiary Miniſter from the Empreſs of the *Ruſſians*, is of a Family of Note in *Courland*. He ſtudy'd at *Koningſberg* in *Pruſſia*. After he had viſited the principal Courts of *Germany*, and return'd to his own Country, he was made Gentleman of the Bed-Chamber to the Dutcheſs of *Courland*, *Anne* of *Muſcovy*, the preſent Empreſs, who employ'd him in ſeveral Commiſſions to the Courts of *Pruſſia* and *Poland*. Nevertheleſs he quitted her Service for one of the judicial Offices in that Country.

When *Anne* came to the Throne, the States of *Courland* deputed M. *Keyſerling* to that Princeſs, who

who offer'd him an Employment at her Court, and appointed him Vice-Preſident of the Chamber of Juſtice of the *Ruſſian* Empire. Some time after, ſhe made him Preſident of the Academy of Sciences at *Peterſbourg*, and ſent him to this Court, where he diſcharges his Miniſterial Office with univerſal Approbation. The Wife of this Miniſter is the Daughter of the Staroſt *Forchs*, who, for oppoſing the Pretenſions of a certain Power which challeng'd more Reſpect, was aſſaſſinated at *Mittaw*. Both he and his Lady are of the *Lutheran* Communion.

John-Hartwig-Erneſt, Baron of *Bernſdorff*, Gentleman of the Bed-Chamber to the King of *Denmark*, and his Majeſty's Envoy at this Court, is of a Family which is poſſeſs'd of a fine Eſtate in *Mecklembourg*, and has given an able Miniſter to the Houſe of *Hanover*. The Envoy, of whom mention is here made, does honour to his Character, and behaves with a Prudence not inferior to Miniſters of the greateſt Experience.

By the Detail I have now given you, Sir, you muſt have obſerv'd that the chief Employments of the Court are in the hands of Foreigners, and that *Saxons* have little to do in Affairs of State, for which they are oblig'd indeed to the Count *de Flemming*. This vain, haughty, and imperious Miniſter expected every one ſhou'd truckle to him. He found that Foreigners were much more ſubmiſſive than the *Saxons*, who are by nature ſtately, and Enemies to Slavery in any ſhape. Count *Flemming* being dead, it's probable that the *Saxons* will be more employ'd than they have been; and indeed they have Capacities equal to any Nation in the World. They are well made, robuſt, agile, laborious, good Soldiers, cunning Courtiers. They have naturally more Spirit than the *French* allow to the *Germans*; they improve in the Sciences, and

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in bodily Exerciſes, and they have good Writers among them upon all ſorts of Subjects; witneſs the Works of M. *Leibnitz*, the famous Philoſopher, and of *Thomaſius*, one of the moſt able Civilians of his time. The *Saxons* are addicted indeed to all Pleaſures in general, but to none ſo much as the Bottle and Gaming. They love Pomp and Expence, and are naturally not very engaging, being exceedingly ceremonious, and affecting more than all the *Germans* to ape the *French*, with whom they ſympathiſe very much, particularly in their Fondneſs for new Faſhions, their Forwardneſs to make new Acquaintance and Friendſhips, and perhaps too in their Readineſs to fall out with them upon every trivial Occaſion.

Since I have ſpoke ſo much of the Men, I muſt alſo give you ſome account of the *Saxon* Women. They are all of a fair Complexion, and there are among them the fineſt Faces in the World. They are generally well ſhap'd too, which is what they are chiefly taken notice of for: They are tall and ſlender; they dance well, and have a ſurprizing genteel Air, which they take great care to improve by rich Dreſs. One Fault I find with 'em is, that they are very affected, and that they have too much Action when they talk. As to their Tempers, they are reckon'd to be good-natur'd; but then they are ſubtle and crafty. They love Dreſs and Ornament more than all Women that I ever ſaw. They are lively and gay, and paſſionately fond of Dancing and Merriment. When they are told that they are handſome, they are ſo far from being ſurpriz'd that they look upon it as a Compliment due to them. When once they love, they love with Tenderneſs; and there are among them ſuch Examples of Conſtancy as wou'd eclipſe even a *Cleopatra*, or a *Clelia*. Theſe heroic Sentiments of Love they learn from Romances, which they are vaſtly

vaſtly fond of: But this muſt be ſaid to their Honour, that Gallantry does not take up ſo much of their Time and Thoughts as to make them neglect their Buſineſs; for they are laborious, dextrous, and amuſe themſelves with all ſorts of Work. They do every thing too with a good Grace; and in a word it may be added to their Praiſe, that a *Saxon* Woman wants nothing more to make her amiable, but an Inclination to acquire that Character.

Pleaſures and Recreations commonly attend the Ladies ſo cloſely that in treating of the one I can't but remember the other; and the Inhabitants of *Dreſden* are ſo much devoted to Pleaſures, that I think I ought to put them into a ſeparate Article. When the King is at *Dreſden* there are Pleaſures in abundance, ſuch as Plays, Maſquerades, Balls, Feaſts, Running at the Ring, and Races on Sleds, Turnaments, Hunting-Matches; but when the King is in *Poland* there's a very great *Vacuum*. The Electoral Prince and Princeſs are often at *Wermſtorff*, alias *Hubertſbourg*; and even when their Royal Highneſſes are in Town, they are pretty retir'd: They ſee Company while they are at Dinner, but for the reſt of the day none come near them beſides the few that have the honour of their Confidence. The reſt are ſcatter'd up and down the Town to the great Diſappointment of Foreigners that happen then to be here; for there's no body keeps open Houſe, they being all ſelect Societies to which 'tis very difficult to gain admittance. If one is invited to dine with ſome Lord of the Court, one has a good Dinner 'tis true, but after Dinner is over a Man knows not how to beſtow himſelf. One is ſure of finding Company no where except at the Houſes of Madame *de Brebentau* the Widow of the Great Treaſurer of *Poland*, and of the Counteſs *de Lagnaſco*; nor are their Houſes always open, for Madame *de Brebentau* is often

often ſick, and Madame *de Lagnaſco* often abroad, or engag'd in Parties with the Electoral Princeſs, and then one knows not where to go; for there's no Play to be ſeen, and as for the young People, they amuſe themſelves with the common Pleaſures of that Stage of Life; they drink, they game, and do ſomething more.

When the King is at *Dreſden*, the People partake in moſt of the Pleaſures of the Court, the generality of the Entertainments which the King gives being public. Plays and Maſquerades are free for any People of Faſhion; there's nothing to pay, and all divert themſelves as they like beſt. The Citizens Wives are more tractable here than in any Town in *Germany:* They love to imitate the Ladies of Quality, and 'tis ſometimes as good as a Comedy to ſee what Airs they give themſelves.

They are extremely fond of Dreſſing, which Luxurious Taſte extends even to Wives of the Mechanics, and of the Livery; ſo that were a Stranger to come hither on a Sunday or a Holiday, when every body is dreſs'd, he wou'd be tempted to think that *Plutus* had ſcatter'd all his Wealth among theſe People; and a very great Nobleman, who 'tis like was not acquainted with the God *Plutus*, returning home once from *Dreſden*, told his Wife that he was come from a City to which the Devil had carry'd all the Money.

The Parſons here do indeed cry aloud againſt theſe Abuſes, but the worſt on't is, that like the Clergy in many other Places, they preach what they don't practiſe; and while they are declaiming againſt Luxury and new Faſhions, they ſuffer their Wives and Daughters to be the firſt to ſet off their Charms with the gayeſt and the neweſt Patterns.

While I am ſpeaking of the Paſtors, I muſt be a little more particular. Theſe Gentlemen ſtand very high in the Opinion of the Laity, and are ready

ready to think themſelves Biſhops. Having ſuch Notions as theſe in their Heads, they anathematiſe all that are not *Lutherans:* The *Catholics* and the *Reform'd*, or, to ſpeak as they do, the *Papiſts* and *Calviniſts*, all Chriſtians in ſhort who are of a contrary Opinion to thoſe charitable Eccleſiaſtics are damn'd without Mercy. Yet by the Appearance of theſe ſevere Judges, one would think they preach'd only Peace and Paradiſe; and they have ſuch a meek, humble, modeſt, and timorous Air, that you wou'd be apt to take them for Saints.

A few days ago I had an Adventure with one of thoſe Clergymen, which I will acquaint you of becauſe I think it may give you an Idea of their Character; for he that ſees one of them ſees all.

I happen'd to be making a Viſit to a *Lutheran* Lady, who paſſes for a very devout one: There was already a pretty deal of Company, and who ſhou'd come in to add to it but a Miniſter that was a Doctor, and by conſequence a Man of Importance; as ſuch too he was received by the Miſtreſs of the Houſe, who ſaid to me as ſoon as ſhe ſaw his Face, *You will now ſee a holy Man.* The good Man, or Saint, as he wou'd be reckon'd, enter'd the Room with his Eyes caſt downward, making profound Reverences, and proſtrating himſelf in ſuch a manner as if he had ſaid *Domine non ſum dignus.* At laſt, after a great many Compliments, he ſate down, was ſilent for a few Moments, and then he ſpoke. His Words were all ſacred, and his Sentences ſuch as if the wiſe Man himſelf had ſpoke with his Lips: *God be prais'd* was in every Phraſe, and he was hearken'd to with as much Attention as an Oracle. I liſten'd to him firſt like the reſt, but at length I thought I might as well talk to a pretty young Lady that ſate juſt by me. The Doctor offended to ſee the little Regard I paid to what he ſaid, enquir'd of the Miſtreſs of the Houſe who I was.

She

She told him my Name, and withal that I was once a *Calviniſt*, but that I was turn'd *Papiſt*. What a Thunder-ſtroke was this to the Doctor! He threw himſelf to the back of his Chair, lifted up his Eyes to Heaven, ſigh'd, and cry'd out, *Das Gott erbarme*, i. e. *God help us*. Then tranſported by a Fit of Zeal, he turn'd about to me and aſk'd me what had induc'd me to embrace a Religion which he treated as Idolatry? I told him that I did not think he need to give himſelf any Trouble about my Converſion, ſince according to his Syſtem I was damn'd when a *Calviniſt* as well as when a *Catholic*. *The Caſe is not quite the ſame*, ſaid the Miniſter; but to turn *Papiſt!* cry'd he, to *adore Baal!* to *become a Diſciple of Antichriſt! alas! it were better to be a damn'd Calviniſt!* I own that I had much ado to help laughing outright at the Miniſter's impertinent Zeal; yet I had the Diſcretion to contain myſelf, for I had a mind to ſee to what length he wou'd carry his ſanctify'd Rant. He ſaid indeed a great deal, and becauſe I made no Anſwer, he thought he had convinc'd me, if not touch'd me to the quick. He was actually applauding himſelf for the good Work he had wrought upon my Soul, when I told him that he ought not to conclude from my Silence that he had convinc'd me; that it neither conſiſted with my Character nor my Temper to diſpute about Religion, that I left every Man to his own Opinion, and that I knew which to adhere to. *What Blindneſs is here!* cry'd the Doctor again, *What a mad Papiſt are you? If you will not be of our Communion*, return to the *Religion which you have abandon'd, in which there is ſome Hopes at leaſt that God will pardon you.*

The fanatical Doctor concluded his Exclamations by a Prayer in which he begg'd God to preſerve every good *Lutheran* Soul from the Errors of Popery;

Popery; and then he went away, leaving the Company more ſcandaliz'd than edify'd by his Zeal.

Formerly the Preachers had the Pleaſure of venting their Choler in the Pulpit, but the King by a wiſe Decree, which indeed ought to be followed in all Countries, has confin'd them to the Preaching of the Goſpel, and to treat of Controverſial Matters no farther than is meerly neceſſary for the People's Inſtruction. For the reſt, the Parſons need not fear being ſoon ſupplanted, for the *Saxons* are hearty *Lutherans*; and if they tolerate the Catholics 'tis becauſe they can't help it. They have excluded them from Offices in the Courts of Judicature, and from the Privilege of enjoying Lands; but they have not been able to keep them out of Places in the Miniſtry, or at Court, nor from Employments in the Army, which are three very engaging Articles to make Proſelytes among the Gentry.

Thus, Sir, you have all that I can ſay to you relating to *Dreſden* and *Saxony*. 'Tis now high time to put an end to my Legend. I kiſs your hand, and am, *&c.*

LETTER VI.

SIR, *Weimar, Sept.* 5, 1729.

BEFORE I write you an account of what became of me when I left *Dreſden*, I ſhall endeavour to give you the Intelligence you deſire concerning the late Count *de Flemming*, Prime Miniſter and Velt-Marſhal of *Saxony*. That Nobleman was of a good Extraction, being deſcended of a Family which pretends to derive its Origin from that of *Flemming*, which has been of conſiderable Rank for a long time in *Scotland*, *Sweden*, *Germany*, and *Poland*. My Lord *Wigtoun* is the Chief of that Family in *Scotland*.

James-Henry Count *de Flemming*, whoſe Pourtraiture and Character you deſire of me, was born the 8th of *March* 1667. His Father was Preſident of the Regency of *Stargard*, the Capital of *Pruſſian Pomerania*, who had three Sons, of whom this Count was the ſecond. He had an Education ſuitable to his Birth. He ſtudy'd firſt at *Francfort* upon the *Oder*, and afterwards at *Utrecht* under the celebrated *Grævius*, where he learnt *Latin* to ſuch a degree that he always ſpoke it with very great Eloquence. After he had finiſh'd his Studies he enter'd into the Service of *Brandenbourg*, where the Baron *de Span*, his Uncle by the Mother's ſide, was Velt-Marſhal. His firſt Preferment was to a Pair of Colours; but in a little time he had a Company given him, which he commanded at the Battle of *Orbaſſan* in *Piedmont*. In 1694, he enter'd as a Lieu-

Lieutenant-Colonel into the Service of *John-George* IV. Elector of *Saxony*; upon whoſe Death, and the Succeſſion of *Frederic-Auguſtus*, *Flemming* obtain'd a Regiment, and accompany'd the new Elector into *Hungary*, where he commanded the Emperor's Army againſt the Infidels during the Campaigns of 1695, and 1696. There it was that *Flemming* kill'd in a Duel the Baron *de Lovel*, who was Lieutenant-Colonel in the Service of *Saxony*. In 1697, he was ſent into *Poland*, where, by the Intereſt of his Couſin-german, the Daughter of Velt-Marſhal *Span* of *Berlin*, Wife of M. *Brebentau* Palatine of *Marienbourg*, who died Great Treaſurer of *Poland*, and by the Credit of *Benedict Sapieha* he had the Happineſs of getting his Maſter choſe King of *Poland*. This Negotiation obtain'd him the Poſt of Major-General, and laid the Foundation of his Fortune. In 1700, he was made a Lieutenant-General, and in that Quality laid ſiege to *Riga*, which the King of *Sweden* oblig'd him to raiſe. In 1702, he marry'd *Sapieha*, a Daughter of one of the chief Noblemen of *Lithuania*. He was wounded the ſame Year at the Battle of *Cliſchhoff*, at which time the King of *Sweden* being every where victorious, demanded that the King of *Poland* ſhou'd deliver up *Flemming* to him. But upon this he retir'd to *Brandenbourg*, till King *Staniſlaus* had made *Charles* XII. eaſy. *Flemming* being return'd to *Saxony*, fought a Duel with M. *de Schulembourg*, who giving him a Fall, inſiſted that he ſhould beg his Life; but *Flemming* got out of this ugly Scrape by a ſcurvy Joke, and *Schulembourg* gave him his Life. The latter was a younger Lieutenant-General than *Flemming*, but in every reſpect his Rival, and wou'd have been a Marſhal if his Fortune had been as good as his Valour. At the Battle of *Frauenſtad* in 1705, where he was defeated by the *Swedes*, *Schulembourg* quit-

ted the Service of *Saxony* and went in to that of *Venice*. By this means *Flemming*, who had now no Rival left, was made a Marſhal, and happen'd to be at *Dreſden* when the King of *Sweden* made that ſtrange Viſit to the King of *Poland*; at which time, if *Auguſtus* had been as ungenerous as *Flemming*, *Charles* wou'd have been detain'd. Many People accuſe *Flemming* of having perſuaded the King his Maſter to deliver up *Patkul*: This I can't pretend to affirm, but that there was a mortal Antipathy betwixt him and the Miniſter of *Ruſſia* is certain; for the latter having preſented a Memorial to the King of *Poland*, ſetting forth the wretched condition of the *Muſcovite* Troops in the Pay of *Saxony*, concluded it with theſe *Latin* Words,

DIXI, ET SALVAVI ANIMAM.

Which Memorial, when *Flemming* had read, and found himſelf not very well us'd in it, he took a Pen and underwrote theſe Words,

MALEDIXISTI, ET DAMNABERIS.

After the Diſaſter which *Charles* XII. met with near *Pultowa*, *Flemming* contributed very much to the Re-eſtabliſhment of King *Auguſtus* in *Poland*. He confirm'd the Alliance betwixt his Maſter and the Czar, made Peace with the Confederates, and concluded another Alliance with *Denmark*. The Czar and the King of *Denmark* honour'd him with their Orders of Knighthood, and he had that of *Poland* before. He went Ambaſſador to the unſucceſsful Congreſs at *Brunſwic*, and was afterwards at *Hanover* to attend *George* I. King of *Great Britain*. When the King of *Sweden* return'd to *Pomerania*, *Flemming* left no Stone unturn'd to draw the King of *Pruſſia* into his Maſter's Alliance. He had ſome Years before procur'd him the Sequeſtration of the Town of *Stetin*, and 'twas lucky enough for

for him that the Pride and Obſtinacy of the King of *Sweden* obliged the King of *Pruſſia* to declare himſelf his Enemy. At that time *Flemming* was rather a Courier between *Dreſden*, *Berlin*, and *Warſaw*, than an Ambaſſador and Prime Miniſter, which Dignity he enjoy'd after the Death of the Prince *de Furſtemberg* his Predeceſſor. When the Peace of the North was ſettled, *Flemming* went Ambaſſador to *Vienna*, where he concluded the Marriage of the Electoral Prince of *Saxony* with the Archdutcheſs, eldeſt Daughter to the Emperor *Joſeph*, tho' the Contract had been ſettled before by the Count de *Wackerbarth*, who it may be ſaid had the Pains to negotiate it, and *Flemming* the Glory of finiſhing it.

At this time Count *Flemming* had reſign'd all the Salaries of his Employments in *Saxony*, and only reſerv'd to himſelf the private Perquiſites and the Franchiſe of the Poſt-Offices; and his Journeys, which were very frequent, were all at the Expence of the King. It was about this time that he caus'd his Marriage with *Sapieha* to be diſſolv'd, and marry'd one *Radzevil*, by whom he had a Son, who was but a Year and a half old when the Count dy'd at *Vienna*, to which place he was return'd with the Character of Ambaſſador. He left all his Eſtate to this Child, without making any Intail on his Family; ſo that when his Son dy'd, who did not long ſurvive him, his Eſtate went to Madame *de Flemming*, who by marrying again carry'd the Bulk of it into another Family. They ſay that his Inheritance was worth ſixteen Millions of Crowns, excluſive of what he had expended during the Splendor of his Fortune, which laſted thirty Years, or thereabouts. Whether *Richelieu* and *Mazarine* got greater Eſtates, I cannot ſay; but in *Germany* there is not an Inſtance of one ſooner acquir'd, more reſplendent, and better ſupported than his was. He was Prime Miniſter, Velt-Marſhal of

Saxony, and Maſter of the Horſe of *Lithuania*; by which Offices he gain'd immenſe Sums. He made conſiderable Purchaſes in *Sileſia* and *Poland*, but very little in *Saxony*. Whether he left any thing to the King is not ſaid; tho' he ought really to have made him ſome Reſtitution, and he might naturally have given up with a good Grace what he cou'd not but foreſee wou'd be taken by force from his Heir. As it was juſt that his Succeſſion ſhou'd paſs thro' the Purgatory of a *Chambre Ardente*, the King eſtabliſh'd one, which 'tis ſaid has adjudg'd eight Millions to his Majeſty, and the ſame to his Widow; which is a very fair Dividend.

Count *Flemming* was taller than ordinary, but a handſome Man; he had very regular Features, a lively Eye, a diſdainful Sneer, a haughty Air, and he was really proud, and beyond meaſure ambitious. He was generous to a degree of Oſtentation, and always aim'd to do ſomething to be talk'd of. He was vigilant, laborious, indefatigable, allow'd himſelf little Sleep; and whenever he took a Debauch, a Nap of two Hours ſet him to rights again. It was no more for him to go from a Debauch to Buſineſs, than from Buſineſs to a Debauch; and he never fatigu'd himſelf, but diſpatch'd the greateſt Affairs with ſo much Eaſe as if they were only a Diverſion. He lov'd to banter, but did not always make uſe of the Terms ſuitable to his Character; and Perſons who did not dare to anſwer him again were commonly the Butts of his Raillery. He was polite when he had a mind to it, but in the general Courſe of his Behaviour he carry'd an Air fitter for a Captain of Dragoons than for a Marſhal and a Prime Miniſter. He never did a thing for any body without ſome View; he ſcrupl'd neither Cunning nor even Perjury, and provided he could gain his Ends, all ways were alike fair to him. All his Life-time he took care to do his own Buſineſs

firſt,

firſt, and then his Maſter's the King's; and I queſtion whether I do him any Injuſtice if I ſay that he was the King of *Pruſſia*'s Miniſter, much more than the King of *Poland*'s.

This, Sir, is all that I have to ſay to you concerning Count *Flemming*. I have told you very nakedly what I always thought of him, and I don't believe that I have miſtaken his Character. Be this as it will, my Deciſion is of too little Weight to do either Good or Harm; the Publick will always judge of him according to their beſt Information. I proceed now with the Narrative of my Travels.

After I had ſet out from *Dreſden* I went to *Altenbourg* in hopes of finding the Court of *Gotha* there, which I had been told, intended to ſpend the Remainder of the fine Seaſon there; but it was ſet out the Night before for *Gotha*, where I hope to ſee it to-morrow.

The City of ALTENBOURG is the Capital of a County of that Name, of which the Duke of *Saxe-Gotha* is the Sovereign. This Prince has a Palace there which makes a handſome Appearance, but I ſhall ſay nothing more of it becauſe I neglected to go and ſee it. The Peaſants of the County of *Altenbourg* are the richeſt in *Germany*, and may almoſt vye with thoſe of *Holland*. I have been aſſur'd that ſome of them have given 20 or 30000 Crowns in Marriage with their Daughters; and like the *Dutch* Peaſants, they take care to match them to none but the Sons of ſubſtantial Farmers.

As I left *Altenbourg* I came upon a fine Cauſey with a Row of Trees on each ſide, which brought me to the Frontiers of the County. I afterwards fell into very bad Roads all the way to *Leipſic*, where I ſtay'd but a very few Hours, and proceeded the ſame day to MERSEBOURG. This City was much more conſiderable formerly than now. It was the

See of a Biſhop, but was ſeculariz'd by the Treaty of *Paſſaw* in favour of the Houſe of *Saxony*. Its Situation is charming, with Gardens and Meadows all round it, and its Walls are waſh'd by the River *Sala*. The great Church which was formerly a Cathedral is a *Gothic* Building, where there is a ſtately Tomb of the Emperor *Rodolph* of *Schwartzbourg*, who dy'd after he had loſt one Hand in a Battel he fought with the Emperor *Henry* IV. with whom he was Competitor. This Prince a few Moments before he expir'd, took up his Hand that was cut off, and holding it up to thoſe who were about him, ſaid to them, *Behold this Hand; 'tis the ſame that I lifted up when I promis'd Faith and Allegiance to my Emperor and Lord; but by your Advice and Inſtigation I have not kept my Promiſe to him, for which you will one day give an account to God.* Some time after this unfortunate Prince's Death, the Emperor *Henry* IV. coming to *Merſebourg* and taking a view of *Rodolphus*'s Tomb, of which he admir'd the Magnificence, certain Flatterers told him that the Tomb ought to be deſtroy'd as too pompous for a Rebel; but the Emperor ſcorning ſuch a pitiful Revenge, made anſwer, *Wou'd to God that all my Enemies were thus pompouſly interr'd.*

The City of *Merſebourg* is the Reſidence of a Duke of the Houſe of *Saxony*, who is Sovereign of all the Country that formerly conſtituted the Biſhoprick, which enables him to keep a ſplendid Court*. The next day after my Arrival I had the Honour to pay him my Compliments, and had a very ſatisfactory Reception. The Prince conducted me into a Hall which was hung with Baſs-Viols from the Bottom to the Top, in the ſame manner as an Arſenal is with Helmets and Breaſt-Plates. In the middle of the Hall there was a Viol which was di-

* The Duke of *Merſebourg* dy'd in 1731, and was ſucceeded by his Uncle, the Duke *de Sprinberg*.

diſtinguiſhi'd from the reſt. It reach'd up to the very Cieling, and there was a Ladder ſet which ſuch as had the Curioſity to take a particular View of it were oblig'd to aſcend, for ſurely it was the moſt ſtately Inſtrument of the kind that ever was made. The Duke made me take particular notice of it, and was pleas'd with the Admiration which I expreſs'd of it. He regal'd me alſo with ſome Airs upon another Baſs-Viol which he call'd his *Favourite*, and which was but one fourth part as big as the other.

After this Concert I din'd with the Duke and Ducheſs. This Princeſs is the Daughter of the late Prince of *Naſſau-Idſtein*, than whom there cannot be a more amiable Lady. She has an Air of Mildneſs, Goodneſs and Prudence diffuſed over all her Features; and her Wit is of the ſame Stamp as her Beauty, amiable without Parade and Oſtentation. Some of her Courtiers aſſur'd me that her Mind is as charming as her Perſon. If that be true, which I am loth to doubt of, this Princeſs deſerves a more ſplendid Fortune than what ſhe enjoys.

After Dinner, I was one at a Match of Quadrille with the Ducheſs, and at night there was dancing, and I never ſaw any body dance with a better Grace than this Princeſs. The Ball held till the Night was far advanced, when there was a grand Supper, which was no ſooner over than I took leave of the Duke and Ducheſs and retir'd to my Quarters, with a deſign to ſet out in a few Hours and proceed in my Journey. At my Lodgings I found a Gentleman from the Duke, who ſaid to me, 'That as he 'was paſſing by he ſaw my Men packing up my 'things, and that therefore he came in purely to 'wiſh me a good Journey. He aſſured me that 'he had a ſecret Kindneſs for me; that I might 'ſafely take his Word; that he was Sincerity it 'ſelf; and that he wiſh'd 500000 Devils might 'twiſt his Neck if he was not heartily my Friend:

'And

'And to give you proofs of it, *ſaid he*, I will treat 'you with ſome Trifle, ſuch as a Dram of An-'niſeed, Orange-Water, or Ratafia. Upon my 'Word my Apothecary has what is choice good; 'he lives but at the end of the Street; Come, I 'will ſhew you the way to his Houſe.'

While he harangu'd me in this manner he reel'd, being ſo drunk that he cou'd not ſtand. I thank'd him therefore for his Love, and told him that I did not drink Drams, but that if he had a mind to any Liquor of that ſort, I would ſend for ſome for him; and I bid my Landlord fetch it. The Apothecary, as ill luck would have it, was not yet got up. 'Soho, here, *ſaid my new Friend*, there is nothing 'to drink but Aquavitæ; here, Landlord, a Glaſs 'of Brandy, Pipes and Tobacco. You muſt have 'ſomething, *ſaid he*, to be doing.' Every thing he call'd for being brought, my Gentleman drank two or three Glaſſes of Brandy, and ſmoak'd as many Pipes of Tobacco. I hop'd to ſee him tumble down, and by conſequence to get rid of him, when he took it into his head to call for ſome Diſhes of Tea that I had order'd to be made for my ſelf, and which made him ſo ſober that he recover'd his Reaſon. I laid hold of this happy Interval (for I heard him calling out for Brandy, which I apprehended would occaſion a Relapſe) and talk'd to him about his Maſter's Baſs-Viols; upon which, without much Intreaty, he ſaid to me, 'You know, Sir, that every Man al-'moſt has his particular Whim, Princes as well as 'private Perſons. One is an Admirer of Magnifi-'cence, another of Troops, and a third of Miſtreſſes. 'As for my auguſt Maſter, his Fancy runs only 'on Baſs-Viols, and whoever ſollicits him for an 'Employment or any other Favour can't do better 'than to accommodate his Arſenal with one of theſe 'Inſtruments. That very large one, *ſaid he*, which 'you ſaw in the Room where all his Viols are, was

'pre-

'preſented to him by one who wanted to be a 'Privy-Counſellor; his Petition was granted, and 'had he aſk'd for any thing elſe he might have 'had it.' This officious Gentleman told me a great many other Particulars which let me into the very Chronicle of the Court of *Merſebourg*; but I don't trouble you with it becauſe the Truth is not to be told at all times.

My Equipage being ready, I ſet out for NAUMBOURG, where I arrived at Noon. This City was formerly the See of a Biſhop. Its ancient Cathedral is ſtill ſtanding, and tho' *Lutheran*, has a Chapter and Canons who muſt prove their Nobility both by the Father's ſide and Mother's ſide, by ſixteen Deſcents. When this Biſhoprick was ſeculariz'd it was ſaid that no Catholic Prince could ever be poſſeſs'd of this State. Therefore when the laſt Duke of *Saxe-Zeits*, Adminiſtrator of *Naumbourg*, turn'd Catholic, the King of *Poland* as eldeſt of the *Saxon* Family and Executor of the *Pacta* or Conventions made between the Princes of that Family, took poſſeſſion of *Naumbourg*. The Duke's being reconciled to the *Lutheran* Communion was to no purpoſe, the King did not reſtore his Dominions to him, but ſtill poſſeſſes them, tho' he is more a Catholic than the Duke of *Zeits* perhaps ever was. You know that this Prince has left a Nephew who would have been his Heir, if he had not been a Catholic and a Prieſt. This is the Prince who, I acquainted you from *Dreſden*, was Biſhop of *Konigſgratz* in *Bohemia*. He was born a *Lutheran*, as are all thoſe of his Family. His Uncle the Cardinal of *Saxe*, Brother to the Duke of *Zeits*, made him embrace the Roman Catholic Religion when he was very young, and afterwards perſuaded him to enter into Eccleſiaſtical Orders, by which ſtep he deprived his Nephew of the glorious Prerogative of being a Sovereign Prince, and transferr'd his Rights

Rights to the King of *Poland* his diſtant Couſin.

Naumbourg is famous for its Fairs, which next to thoſe of *Leipſic*, are the moſt conſiderable in *Saxony*. The Suburbs of this City are almoſt all Vineyards; but why, I know not, for the Wine is ſo deteſtably bad that they give it away in a manner for nothing.

Finding nothing at *Naumbourg* which was worth my while to ſtay there for, I only chang'd Horſes and came hither. As one approaches this Place, we meet with Corn-Fields and Hop-Grounds inſtead of Vines, and the Country riſes into Hills, ſo that one does not ſee the Town of WEIMAR till we are juſt upon it. This City which is not more conſiderable than *Naumbourg*, is the Reſidence of the Duke of *Saxe-Weimar*, who has a Palace here which does not want for Magnificence, and tho' unfiniſh'd, has an air of Grandeur. The Connoiſſeurs in Architecture highly extol the grand Stair-Caſe there, which two Perſons may aſcend and deſcend at the ſame time without meeting one another, and yet always keeping each other in view. It conſiſts of two Flights of Stairs upon one Spindle, laid one over the other in the ſame Well of a ſquare Form. The Curious who have obſerv'd it, admire it, becauſe there are few ſuch to be ſeen.

The great Hall which is an oval, is beautiful, but not lightſome enough. There are the Pictures of all the Dukes of *Saxe-Weimar* at full length, from the firſt Duke that ever was down to the Father of the preſent. They are all drawn on Horſeback, and done by no mean Hand.

In the ſame Palace is the Duke's Library, which tho' not very large, conſiſts of ſundry ſcarce Books. 'Tis open twice a week, when the Curious are not only permitted to peruſe them, but even to borrow them, upon leaving a Note with the Librarian.

The

The Duke of *Weimar* ſpends very little Time in his Capital, but commonly reſides at a Seat which he has caus'd to be built about a League out of Town. He has given it the Name of *Belle-Vue*, becauſe of the fine Proſpect which it commands from the Apartments of the firſt Story. The Houſe is ſmall and not very commodious, ſo that the chief Beauty of it is its Situation, which is very charming. The Gardens which are begun upon very good Plans will be beautiful when finiſh'd, as well as the Pheaſant-Walk and Menagerie where there are Turkys and all ſorts of Fowl.

The Duke of *Weimar*'s Name is *Erneſt-Auguſtus*: He is the eldeſt of the *Erneſtine* Branch which loſt the Electorate when *Charles* V. was Emperor. He marry'd a Princeſs of *Anhalt-Cothen*, who I have been told, was a Lady of diſtinguiſh'd Merit. She dy'd and left him a Son and three Daughters.

The young Prince is about ten Years of age *. He can neither hear nor pronounce well, and is withal of a very tender Conſtitution. The Phyſicians ſay it ſignifies nothing, and that as he grows up he will acquire a Freedom of Speech. But I queſtion it, and am apt to think rather that thoſe Diſciples of *Æſculapius* will ſend him into the other World. The only Hopes of any Male Iſſue of *Weimar* are founded upon this Child. The Duke of *Saxe-Eyſenach* who is the next a-kin has no Children; ſo that the Dominions of *Weimar* and *Eyſenach* too are ready to devolve to the Family of *Saxe-Gotha*. The Duke of *Weimar*'s Subjects teaze him very much to marry, but the Prince does not ſeem to be in a Humour to ſatisfy them; for I have often heard him ſay that he can't bear the mention of Marriage.

No

* This Prince dy'd in 1732.

No body preſumes to go to *Belle-Vue* without being ſent for, except only on *Mondays* when poor People are permitted to go thither with their Petitions which they deliver to the Secretary, and he gives them to the Duke. Perſons of Quality whether Foreigners or others that have a mind to ſpeak with the Duke, apply for it to the Marſhal of the Court, but are ſeldom admitted to an Audience.

The Duke has rarely any other Company at *Belle-Vue* but two young Ladies whom he calls his Maids of Honour, and three young Women, Citizens Daughters, who go by the Name of his Chamber-Maids; a Major of his Troops, and the Officer of his Guard, who is a Lieutenant or an Enſign. I had forgot to mention the Baron *de Brubl* who is the Duke's Favourite and his Maſter of the Horſe.

'Tis with theſe Perſons that the Prince paſſes his Time. He wakes early in the Morning, but makes it late before he riſes; for he takes his Tea in Bed, and ſometimes plays on the Violin. At other times he ſends for his Architects and Gardeners, with whom he amuſes himſelf in drawing of Plans. His Miniſters alſo come to him while he is in Bed to talk upon Buſineſs. About Noon he gets up, and as ſoon as he is dreſs'd, ſees his Guard mount, which conſiſts of 33 Men, commanded by a Lieutenant or an Enſign. He exerciſes his Soldiers himſelf, and corrects them too when they commit any Fault. This done he takes the Air, and at two or three o' clock ſits down to Table, where the two Maids of Honour, the Maſter of the Horſe, the Major, the Officer of the Guard, and even Foreigners if any happen to be there, are of the Company. The Dinner holds a long while, and 'tis ſometimes three, four, and five Hours before they riſe from Table. The Glaſs never ſtands ſtill hardly, and the Duke talks a great deal, but the Converſation is commonly on Subjects that are not very agreeable. When Dinner is over they drink Coffee,

Coffee, after which the Duke retires for a few Minutes, and then plays at Quadrille with his two young Ladies and the Major; but ſometimes he does nothing but ſmoak Tobacco, and he often retires to his Chamber where he amuſes himſelf with Drawing, or elſe playing on the Violin till he goes to Bed.

There ſcarce a Week paſſes but the Duke gives an Invitation at leaſt once or twice to all the Perſons of Quality of the Court, and all the Officers of his Troops, at which time there are two great Tables ſpread, where they dine, play, ſup, and afterwards dance till next Day.

The Duke's Troops conſiſt of a Battalion of 700 Men, a Squadron of 180 Troopers, and a Company of Cadets on horſeback. His Infantry conſiſts of pick'd Men. Since the famous *Bernard de Weimar* who was Penſioner to *Lewis* XIII. King of *France*, no Duke of *Weimar* had ſo many Troops, and really they muſt be chargeable to the Duke whoſe Revenues 'tis ſaid don't exceed 400000 Crowns. This Prince has made a Treaty with the King of *Poland*, whereby he engages to aſſiſt the King with his Battalion whenever his Majeſty thinks it neceſſary for his Service; in which Caſe the King promiſes to give that Battalion the ſame Pay as he does his own Troops. Mean time the Duke is obliged to clothe them all according to the Pattern which is ſent to him from *Dreſden*; and indeed their Clothes are very rich, eſpecially thoſe of the Officers and Cadets, which are ſo bedaub'd with Gold and Silver Lace that a Foreigner who comes to *Weimar* cannot but admire it.

The Duke's Family is very numerous, for beſides the Prince his Son and the three Princeſſes his Daughters, he has a Siſter, and a Mother-in-law, who is a Princeſs of *Heſſe-Hombourg*: Mean time he has

has a numerous Court, and may boaſt that ſome of them are Perſons of very great Merit.

The Gentleman who is at the Head of Affairs is the Baron *de Reinbabe*, who has the Title of Preſident of the Council of State. He is a Perſon of a good Family in *Sileſia*, has very great Abilities, and withal ſo much Good-nature and Modeſty as are ſeldom to be met with. When he was young he travell'd very much abroad, where he learnt what was valuable in every Country that he came to. He ſpeaks ſeveral Languages well, is a great Hiſtorian, a learned Civilian, and a good Poet. Notwithſtanding the Buſineſs that goes thro' his Hands, and his Care of a numerous Family, he is always almoſt at his Studies, and never better pleas'd than when he is in his Library; yet he is no Enemy to Pleaſures, but enjoys them without abandoning himſelf to them, and takes them as they fall in his way without purſuing 'em. To finiſh his Character I will add what was ſaid of him by a Prince who knew him intimately: *If Probity was intirely loſt in the reſt of Mankind*, ſaid he to me, *I think I ſhou'd be ſure to find it again in the Baron* de Reinbabe.

The Baron *de Schmiedel* is Marſhal of the Court and Director of the military Cheſt. He is a Perſon of great Piety, whoſe Aſpect is not indeed the moſt engaging, yet a very good Man to have to do with. He is a ſincere Friend, loves to do a kind Thing, is exact in the Duties of his Offices, an Enemy to Vice, and very much attach'd to the Intereſts of his Maſter, tho' he does not always pleaſe him becauſe he has not the Talent of Diſſimulation ſo neceſſary at Courts.

The Baron *de Studenitz* a *Sileſian* is a Privy-Counſellor, and Preſident of the Chamber. He was formerly in the Service of the Duke of *Saxe-Barbi*, and afterwards he enter'd into that of the Duke of *Saxe-Hilburgſhauſen*, whoſe Finances he directed

directed for ſeveral Years, in which he acquired a Reputation, and came to *Weimar* where he was continued in the ſame Employment. He is a Gentleman of very great Learning and Integrity, and having travell'd a long time in his Youth, very well knows how to carry himſelf.

M. *de Hering* is of a noble Family in the Country of *Anhalt-Cothen*. He is the Duke's Aulic Counſellor, a Gentleman of Worth, and both Learned and Polite. He is on the point of leaving this Court, which will be a Loſs to the Duke that he will not eaſily repair.

M. *de Bruhl* the Duke's Maſter of the Horſe and Favourite, is a *Saxon*. His Birth, good Qualities, and eſpecially his ſweet Temper render him very worthy of a Sovereign's Favour. Yet I doubt whether, notwithſtanding ſo much Merit, he has a firm Footing in the Duke's Friendſhip; he has too much Candor, too much Sincerity, and is too zealous to do Services; and perhaps alſo too much attach'd to the Intereſts and Honour of his Maſter; for tho' theſe Qualities have the Appearance of Virtues, yet they are ſometimes Errors in the Eyes of Princes.

Thus, Sir, have I given you the Names of the moſt diſtinguiſh'd Perſons at the Court of *Weimar*. I ſet out to-morrow for *Gotha*. I hope for a Line from you at *Wurtzbourg*, and don't propoſe to write again to you till I know whether you are living or dead.

I am, &c.

LETTER VII.

SIR, *Gotha, Sept.* 9, 1732.

I Set out from *Weimar* at 5 o' clock in the Morning and by eight was at *Erfurt*, where I walk'd about an Hour, and came at Noon to *Gotha*.

'Tis all a flat Country abounding with Corn. In time of Rain the Roads are ſo bad that ſometimes it takes up a whole Day to come from *Erfurt* to *Gotha*. ERFURT is a City belonging to the Elector of *Mentz*, is the Capital of *Thuringia*, and may be rank'd among thoſe of the ſecond Claſs in *Germany*. Its Inhabitants are almoſt all *Lutherans*, yet the principal Churches belong to the Catholics. *Erfurt* is fortified with good Ramparts, and by a Caſtle on a Hill which abſolutely commands the Town. There is always a good Gariſon in the Place which conſiſts of the Emperor's Soldiers and thoſe of *Mentz*; and the Elector has a Governor here with the Title of *Stadtholder*, who preſides in the Regency.

GOTHA, which is not near ſo big as *Erfurt*, is a City ſituate in the middle of a fine fruitful Plain, ſo that which way ſoever one approaches it, one always perceives the Caſtle or Palace of the Duke, which ſtands on an Eminence by itſelf, and has a Proſpect of a vaſt Extent of Country. This Caſtle, which is one of the biggeſt in *Germany*, was built by *Erneſt* Duke of *Gotha*, ſurnamed the *Pious*; who cauſed

cauſed both that and the Town to be encompaſſed with Ditches and Ramparts. To the Glory of this Prince, he undertook and finiſhed theſe Great Works, at a time when *Germany* was ſo impoveriſhed by inteſtine Wars that few of its Princes were able to erect Palaces.*

As of all the *Saxon* Princes of the *Erneſtine* Branch, the Duke of *Gotha* is the moſt powerful, ſo his Court is of all the *Saxon* Courts, next to that of *Dreſden*, the moſt Numerous and the moſt Magnificent.

* The chief Trade of this Town is in *Woad*, of which they have three ſorts. The firſt they ſow about *Chriſtmas*, the next in the *Spring*, *Summer*, and *Harveſt*, of which they have three Crops, and the third grows wild. This Herb is ſuch a ſovereign Balſamic, that it cures Wounds almoſt with a touch, if taken in time. It reſembles Plantain, but has a longer Leaf. The Roots fatten and improve barren Ground exceedingly, and being brought over to *England*, with *Clover*, *Cinque-Foil*, &c. grows with good Succeſs in *Northamptonſhire*, and other Places. In the Duke's Palace there is a Chamber of valuable Rarities, and a noble Library, of which the late Duke caus'd a Catalogue to be publiſh'd of the MSS. that the Learned might know where to have recourſe to them. The Perſon he imployed to form it, was Dr. *Cyprianus* Eccleſiaſtical Counſellor and Aſſeſſor in the Conſiſtory of *Gotha*. They are for the moſt Part the MSS. of Eccleſiaſtical Authors, Ancient and Modern, eſpecially the latter. There is a great Number of Papers and Letters in the *Latin* and *German* Languages, concerning *Luther*'s Reformation, and ſeveral MSS. of the vulgar Tranſlation of the Bible. There is a correcter Copy than that at *Leipſic*, of the Works of *Lactantius*; another of St. *Auſtin*'s Treatiſe of the *City of God*, which belonged to *Williſis* Archbiſhop of *Mentz*, about the year 1000; another of the ancient Capitularies of the Kings of *France*, with the Salic Laws, and the Laws of the *Lombards*, *Almains*, &c. There are thirty one MS. Volumes containing the Abridgments of the Lives of the Emperors of the *Weſt*, and of the *Eaſt*, their Pictures and Medals, and thoſe of their Families, the whole collected in 1550, by *James de Strada* of *Mantua*. The Medals are very well deſign'd, and *Occo* the famous Antiquary affirms in a Letter quoted by M. *Patin*, that every Figure on them coſt a Crown the engraving. There is a particular MS. which contains a Collection of Tracts by certain *Greek* Chymiſts concerning the deſirable *Art of making Gold*. For the reſt the Curious are referred to the Catalogue it ſelf.

Nevertheleſs the Subjects of the Duke of *Gotha*† are the leaſt burthen'd with Taxes of any in *Germany*. To this Prince's wiſe Management of his Finances is owing not only his own Happineſs, but that of his People too, by whom he is ador'd; and really he treats them more like a Father, than a Sovereign; and never makes them ſenſible of his Power, but when he is to do them Juſtice. He is a kind good Maſter, eaſy of Acceſs, temperate in his way of Living, gives very great Application to the Affairs of his Government, loves Reading, underſtands Books, and knows every thing which a Prince ought to be acquainted with. As to his Perſon, he is handſome and comely; is civil in his Deportment, but reſerv'd; and therefore ſeldom ſpeaks to Strangers, if he can help it; but endeavours firſt of all to know thoſe he has Buſineſs with, and when he has found out their Character, talks with them upon ſuch Subjects as he thinks they are beſt acquainted with. He keeps regular Hours, riſes at ſeven o'clock, firſt ſpends an Hour in Prayer, and the reading of ſome pious Treatiſe; and then gets himſelf dreſs'd, and gives Audience to his Miniſters, or to other Perſons that deſire it. At Noon he dines with the Ducheſs his Wife, the Princes his Children, and other Perſons of Diſtinction; ſtays about an Hour and a half at Table, and then takes a Walk in the Gardens of the Palace, or if the Weather does not permit, he employs himſelf in his Cloſet, or ſpends the Time in reading till five o'clock. Then he goes to the Houſe of ſome Perſon of Diſtinction at his Court where all the Nobility have an Aſſembly, and plays at Ombre, after which he returns to his Palace, ſups in the manner that he din'd, and at nine o'clock retires.

There is a Drawing-Room at Court three times a Week when the Company meets in a great Hall, where

† This Prince who was *Frederic* II. died in 1732, *March* 12.

where they make Parties at Ombre and Piquet. At ſeven o'clock a large Table is ſpread, which is free for all the Company. Then a Carver cuts up the Victuals, which are handed to that, and to all the Gaming-Tables that are cover'd with Napkins. Thoſe who don't play may ſit down at what Table they like beſt. The Duke, the Ducheſs, or the Princes, generally do Foreigners the Honour to admit them to their Table. During the Supper there is a Concert of Muſic, and at nine o'Clock all the Company retires.

The Duke by his Marriage with *Magdalen-Auguſta* of *Anhalt-Zerbſt*, has ſeven Sons and two Daughters *: The eldeſt is the Hereditary Prince, who has been twice in *Paris*, and once in *Italy*, *England*, *Holland*, *Denmark*, *Sweden*, and at all the Courts of *Germany*, in which Travels he has acquir'd a great deal of Politeneſs, and valuable Knowledge. I had the Honour of making my Compliments to him both at *Paris*, and the *Hague*, and found him of ſuch a Temper as induces me to think that the Subjects of *Gotha* will be as happy hereafter under his Government, as they are under that of the Duke his Father. He was lately married to his Couſin-German *Louiſa-Dorothea* of *Saxe-Meinungen*, a very lovely young Princeſs, who, with all her Graces and Charms, has abundance of Good-nature and Modeſty.†

The Duke has all the Great Officers common to other Sovereigns. The Count *de Ronaw* is Great Marſhal, and the chief Man at Court. They give him here the Character of Favourite; whether he is ſuch I know not, but this I know, that he is not

* He had ten Sons and ſix Daughters by her. The Hereditary Prince who ſucceeds him is *Frederic* III. born *April* 4, 1699. He has a Brother named *William*, born *March* 12, 1701. and ſome time an Officer in the *Dutch* Service.

† She was born *Auguſt* 10, 1710.

unworthy of it. I was very well acquainted with him at *Ratisbon* in 1720; he was not then in any Place, and expreſſed a Friendſhip for me; and now that I ſee him here in a Poſt, I find him the ſame Man as at *Ratisbon*, always a Friend to his Friends; which for a Favourite is a very great Character.

The Duke's Revenues are computed at a Million of Crowns a year, with which he maintains near 3000 Men of regular Troops. His Family is large and his Livery fine; his Guards are very well cloath'd; his Table is ſerv'd with more Delicacy than Profuſion; his Palace is well furniſh'd; every body punctually paid; and no body diſſatisfied.

I don't mention the Library to you, nor the Chamber of Rarities, becauſe I am not yet well enough inform'd of ſuch Things there as are worth obſerving. I propoſe to take another Round before I go hence, and ſhall not fail to tranſmit to you what Obſervations I ſhall make there. Mean time, I am, *&c.**

LET-

* Since theſe Letters were written the Face of the Court of *Gotha* is very much altered. The Duke therein mentioned is dead. The Hereditary Prince *Frederic* has ſucceeded him, and his Mother the Ducheſs Dowager retired to *Altenbourg*, with the Princeſſes her Daughters, who are *Frederica* born *July* 6, 1715. O. S. and *Auguſta* born *Nov.* 18, 1719. and married *April* 27, 1736. to his Royal Highneſs *Frederic* Prince of *Wales*. The Duke's Brothers who are *William*, *John-Auguſtus*, *Chriſtian-William*, *Lewis-Erneſt*, *Maurice* and *John-Adolphus*, are gone into the Service of the Emperor, the King of *Poland*, and the Prince of *Heſſe-Caſſel*. As to the Government, the Duke treads in the very Steps of his late Father. M. *Backover* is his Chancellor, and the firſt Man in his Council. M. *de Hering*, formerly in the Service of the Duke of *Saxe-Weimar*, is Vice-Chancellor. The Count *de Renaw* is now Envoy at the Dyet of *Ratisbon*. M. *de Damnitz*, heretofore in the Service of the Prince *de Rudelſtad*, is Grand-Marſhal; and ſeems to have a Share in the new Duke's Confidence. This Gentleman is alſo a Major-General, and the Camp ſeems to be a fitter Element for him

LETTER VIII.

SIR, *Wurtzbourg, Sept.* 22, 1729.

WHEN I came hither I had the very great Pleaſure to find your Letters, and to hear that you enjoy perfect Health. Continue, I beſeech you, to write to me; that being the only Means by which you can perſuade me what I wiſh to be convinced of more than any thing in the World, that my Letters are acceptable to you.

I have been in one of the moſt diſagreeable Roads in all *Germany*; and tho' the Country abounds with Proviſions of all ſorts, I had like to have been famiſhed in the Public Houſes.

From *Gotha*, I went to EYSENACH, thinking to paſs a few Days at that Court, but I found the*Duke ſick, and the Hereditary Prince and Princeſs† abſent, ſo that I had only my Labour for my Pains.

him than the Court.—— The Office of Maſter of the Horſe is not yet fill'd up. M. *de Wurm*, a Perſon of Quality and Merit, was in poſſeſſion of that Office in the late Duke's time, but he lately reſigned it of his own accord. M. *de Stotterheim*, is to be appointed Great Cup-Bearer, who is as yet, I think, in the Service of ſome Foreign Prince.

**John William* Duke of *Saxe-Eyſenach*, died at ſixty-one Years of Age, ſoon after having married to his fourth Wife *Mary Chriſtina Felicite* Counteſs of *Linange*, the Widow of *Chriſtian* Margrave of *Baden Dourlach*.

† *Ann Sophia Charlotte* of *Pruſſia* Daughter of the late Margrave *Albert*, and Wife to *William Henry* the preſent Duke of *Saxe-Eyſenach*.

As the Town of *Eyſenach* offers nothing at all to View which is worth a Traveller's Attention, I ſet out the ſame Day for FULDE, where I arrived the next. You know, that this City is the Capital of the Principality of *Fulde*, the Sovereign of which is an Abbot, a Prince of the Empire, and Chancellor to the Empreſs. The preſent Sovereign is *Adolphus* Baron of *Bahlberg*, who was choſe by the Chapter of the Abbey Church in 1726, in the room of *Conſtantine* Baron of *Buthler*, who died ſuddenly, and not without ſuſpicion of Poiſon. *Fulde* is a dirty little Town open on all ſides, and has nothing remarkable but the Abbey Church, and the Prince's Palace, which are two Freeſtone Buildings that make a very grand Appearance. The Apartments of the Palace are very richly furniſh'd. The laſt Abbot being a Man of good Underſtanding and great Views, cauſed this Palace to be ſo adorned as to demonſtrate the Wealth of the Abbey.

The Prince Abbot has a Grand Marſhal, a Maſter of the Horſe, a Marſhal of the Court, ſeveral Privy and Aulic Counſellors, a Number of Gentlemen, a Company of Horſe-Guards well cloathed and well mounted, a Regiment of Foot Guards, eight Pages, a Number of Footmen, and ſeveral Sets of Horſes. He gives a rich Livery, and in a word, his Houſhold is ſpruce and magnificent. There are very few Sovereigns in *Germany* whoſe Table is better ſerved; for there is plenty of every thing, particularly delicious Wines, of which they tipple to ſuch Exceſs that in a very little time they are not capable of diſtinguiſhing their Liquor. There are, I believe, the hardeſt Drinkers here in *Europe*; and I being on the other hand but a Milkſop, thought that *Fulde* was not a Country for me to pitch my Tent in. I dined with the Prince, went home drunk to my Quarters, ſlept ſound, and next Day

ſet

ſet out for *Wurtzbourg*, where I am happily arriv'd after having gone through ſuch horrible bad Ways, and met with ſuch diſmal Lodging, that I wiſh my Enemies were but condemned to travel this Road four times a Year.

Here I make myſelf amends for the Mortification which I met with coming hither. WURTZBOURG is a conſiderable City though not very large. The *Main* divides it into two Parts. It is the Reſidence of the Prince Biſhop of *Wurtzbourg* Duke of *Franconia*. The Perſon who now enjoys that great Dignity is *Chriſtopher Francis de Houtten* *. He was elected by the Chapter to ſucceed *John Philip Francis* Count de *Schonborn*, who was one of the greateſt and moſt magnificent Prelates that perhaps ever fill'd the Epiſcopal See of *Wurtzbourg*. This Prince, in the five Years time that he has been Biſhop, has done more things for the Embelliſhment of *Wurtzbourg* than ten of his Predeceſſors put together. He has furniſhed one Part of the Town with new Fortifications, and has laid the Baſis of a ſtately Palace which will be one of the greateſt, the compleateſt and moſt regular Fabrics that we have in *Germany*; he having for that end conſulted the moſt ſkilful Architects, and ſent for the moſt celebrated Sculptors from *Italy*. As he was a paſſionate Admirer of the Arts and Sciences, and perfectly underſtood them, eſpecially Architecture; he choſe the beſt Parts of all the Deſigns that were preſented to him, and from them he compos'd the Plan of the Work, which was executed with ſuch diligence that in four Years time two thirds of the Building were rooft. His unexpected Death put a ſtop for a while to this Great Work. The preſent

* His Succeſſor was *Frederic Charles* Count *de Schonborn* Biſhop of *Bamberg* and Vice-Chancellor of the Empire, who was before his Competitor. In 1734, he reſigned the Poſt of Vice-Chancellor, and retired to his Biſhoprick.

preſent Biſhop took it in hand again, but after having made conſiderable Alterations in thoſe great and magnificent Projects, the Work advances ſo ſlowly that when it will be finiſhed no body knows.

The deceaſed Biſhop *Schonborn* has alſo cauſed a Chapel to be built near the Metropolitan Church, which he has lined with very uncommon Marble brought for the purpoſe from *Italy* at a very great Expence. Braſs, Gilding, and every thing that can render a Chapel ſuperb, has been employed in it in a very curious Manner. This ſtately Edifice is as yet imperfect, and will require great Sums to finiſh it. As it was deſigned for the Burial-Place of the Biſhop and his Family, it is to be preſum'd that the Houſe of *Schonborn*, now ſo rich and ſo powerful, will not ſuffer a Monument to lie unfiniſh'd which is to perpetuate the remembrance of its Grandeur.

The Great Hoſpital founded by a Biſhop whoſe Name was *Julius*, is worth ſeeing. 'Tis a ſtately Building which looks more like the Palace of a Prince than a Hoſpital. Four hundred Perſons of both Sexes are maintained in it. There are two fine Halls which are particularly made uſe of upon *Holy Thurſday*. In the one, the Biſhop performs the Ceremony of waſhing the Feet of the Poor, who are afterwards ſumptuouſly feaſted in it; and in the other, he regales his Chapter, and all his Family.

The Caſtle ſtands upon an Eminence on the other ſide of the River which we paſs over a Stone Bridge, adorn'd like that of St. *Angelo* at *Rome*, with twelve fine Statues repreſenting ſo many Saints. This Caſtle is a ſtrong Place, and entirely commands the Town. The Form of it is quite irregular, it conſiſting of ſeveral Buildings erected by ſeveral Biſhops. Thoſe Prelates always liv'd in it, till the laſt, who, while he was building a new Palace in the Town, lodged in a neighbouring Gentleman's

Houſe

Houſe, from whence he could ſee how the Work went on. The Apartments of the old Caſtle are ſpacious and noble. I found in them all that Furniture with which they were adorn'd for the Reception of the Archdutcheſs *Mary-Elizabeth*, when that Princeſs came to *Wurtzbourg* in her Way to the Government of the *Netherlands*. I have not ſeen richer Furniture at the Palace of any Prince of the Empire.

In this Caſtle there are two things that are well worth ſeeing; the Arſenal and the Vault; the one full of all the Stores invented by *Mars* and *Bellona*, for the Deſtruction of Mankind, and the other furniſh'd with every thing to ſatiate the Thirſt of an Army of Drunkards. If ever you come hither and ſhould have the Curioſity to viſit theſe Magazines of *Mars* and *Bacchus*, I adviſe you to begin with the Arſenal, eſpecially if you can get ſome Courtier to go with you; for theſe Gentlemen tho' very civil, think, that the leaſt thing which a Foreigner ought to do for them is to forfeit his Reaſon to them in this Vault. I am ſure, I ſpeak by dear Experience. Three Days ago I told the Biſhop that I had a mind to ſee the Caſtle. This Prince was ſo complaiſant as to order one of his Gentlemen to go with me. My honeſt Companion fearing, 'tis like, that a Converſation *tete-a-tete* would be too melancholy, choſe two Topers to bear us Company, whom *Silenus* would not have diſown'd for his Children. Being a Stranger to the Virtues for which thoſe Gentlemen were eminent, I put myſelf entirely under their Direction without the leaſt Apprehenſion of my Misfortune. When they had ſhewed me the Apartments, the Arſenal, Fortifications, and every thing, they carried me at laſt into the Vault, which I found illuminated like a Chapel wherein I was to lie in State; and indeed, my Funeral Obſequies were perform'd in Pomp, for the Glaſſes ſerved inſtead

inſtead of Bells, and Torrents of Wine guſh'd out inſtead of Tears: At length, after the Service was over, two of the Prince's *Heydukes* carry'd me to a Coach, and from thence to Bed; that was my Tomb. Yeſterday I roſe again, but ſcarce know at this Moment whether I am quite come to myſelf. 'Tis true that this does not give me much Concern, for ever ſince I have been here, I have followed the laudable Cuſtom of getting drunk twice a-day. You perceive that I am improv'd by my Travels, and that I am apt enough to learn the pretty Manners of the Countries where I make any Stay. I fancy that you will find me very much alter'd for the better. There is nothing that accompliſhes a Man ſo much as travelling; judge you of this by the Life which I lead here.

I riſe at ten o'clock, my Lungs very much inflam'd with the Wine I drank the Night before: I take a large Doſe of Tea, dreſs myſelf, and then go to make my Compliments to the Biſhop. The Baron *de Pechtelſheim* the Marſhal of the Court invites me to dine with the Prince: He promiſes, nay, and ſometimes ſwears too that I ſhall not drink. At Noon we ſit down to Table. The Biſhop does me the honour to drink two or three Healths to me. The Baron *de Zobel*, Maſter of the Horſe, and the Baron *de Pechtelſheim*, toaſt the ſame number to me, and I am under a neceſſity of drinking to no leſs than fourteen Perſons at the Table; ſo that I am drown'd in Liquor before I have din'd. When the Company riſes, I wait on the Prince to his Chamber-Door, where he retires, and I think to do the ſame, but I find an Embargo put upon me in the Antichamber by the Maſter of the Horſe, and the Marſhal of the Court, who with great Bumpers in their Hands drink the Prince's Health to me, and *Proſperity for ever to the moſt laudable Chapter of* Wurtzbourg. I proteſt to them that I am the

Biſhop's

Biſhop's moſt humble Servant, and that I have a very great Veneration for the moſt laudable Chapter, but that to drink their Healths wou'd deſtroy mine, and therefore I beg they wou'd excuſe my pledging them; but I may as well talk to the Wind; theſe two Healths muſt be drank, or I ſhall be reckon'd no Friend to the Prince and his Chapter. If this were all my Taſk I ſhou'd be well off; but then comes M. *de Zobel*, one of the moſt intrepid Carouſers of the Age, who ſqueezes me by the Hand, and with an Air and Tone of perfect Cordiality, ſays to me, *You love our Prince ſo well that you can't refuſe drinking to the Proſperity of the illuſtrious Family of* Houtten. And when he has made this moving Speech, he takes off a great Glaſs to witneſs his Zeal for the Life of his Maſter; after which an officious *Heyduke* brings me a Glaſs, and being infected with the Gouſt that prevails at this Court, aſſures me that this Wine cannot poſſibly do me Harm, becauſe 'tis the very ſame that the Prince drinks. By a Perſuaſion, founded on ſo juſt an Inference, I have the Courage to venture on t'other Glaſs, which is no ſooner drank but I reel, and can drink no more; when in order to finiſh me M. *de Pechtelſheim*, one of the honeſteſt Gentlemen living, but the ſtauncheſt Wine-bibber that I know, accoſts me with a Smile, and ſays, *Come*, dear Baron, *one Glaſs more to better Acquaintance*. I conjure him to give me Quarter, but he embraces me, kiſſes me, and calls me *Herr Bruder*, (his dear Brother.) How can a Man withſtand ſuch tender Compliments! At laſt I put myſelf in a fit Poſture to run away; I ſneak off, ſteal down the Steps as well as I can, and ſqueeze myſelf into a Sedan which carries me home; where my People drag me out like a dead Corpſe, and fling me on a Bed, as if the next thing was to lay me out. I ſleep three or four hours, awake in a perfect Maze, put myſelf

to

to rights again, and prepare to make Viſits, or to receive them; but whichſoever I do, I preſently find myſelf in ſuch a pickle again, that I cannot walk alone. There's no ſuch thing as Converſation here betwixt one Friend and another without the Bottle; ſo that I am tempted to think the Inhabitants of this City are deſcended from *Silenus*, and that the old Sot left them the Faculty of hard drinking for a Legacy, as St. *Hubert* bequeath'd to his Family the power of curing a Frenzy.

I din'd yeſterday with the Reverend the *Scots Benedictine* Fryars who gave me a hearty Welcome, and an excellent ſort of Liquor call'd *Stein Wein*, or Stone-Wine, probably becauſe it grows on a Rock; which is the only time that I have departed from the Regimen I keep to here, I mean that I was not drunk. The Houſe of theſe *Benedictines* is one of the five Houſes which form a ſort of a Republic in their Order, and which, without depending on their General, chuſe a Preſident out of their number who has the direction of all their Affairs. Theſe five Houſes are in five different Towns, *viz.* at *Vienna* in *Auſtria*, at *Ratiſbon*, *Wurtzbourg*, at *Doway* in *Flanders*, and at *Dieulegarde*, near *Pont-a-Mouſſon* in *Lorrain*.

Theſe *Benedictines* put me in mind of the Reverend Fathers the *Jeſuits*, who have a very fine Houſe in this City: Theſe are they who are Directors of the Univerſity, and inſtruct the Youth with a Zeal which cannot but confound their Enemies.

The Prince and Biſhop lives in very great Splendor, and is one of the moſt powerful of our Spiritual Sovereigns. His Dominion includes ſeventy Bailywics, and his Country is the fineſt and fruitfulleſt in *Germany*. The only thing that is ſcarce here is Money, and this is owing to their want of Trade, and to the great number of Monks and Prieſts

Prieſts who ingroſs all to themſelvs. The Biſhop has 50000 Crowns a-year for his Privy-Purſe. The Chamber is oblig'd to maintain him in every thing. It furniſhes his Wardrobe, his Table, and pays his Houſhold and his Troops, which actually conſiſt of 3500 Men, who are commanded by General *Eib*, the Governour of *Wurtzbourg*. In time of War the Biſhop has no leſs than 10000.

The Court is numerous, and I can aſſure you that upon Feſtival-Days 'tis very magnificent. On St. *Quilian*'s Day, who is the Patron of *Wurtzbourg* and *Franconia*, the Biſhop repairs with a great Train to the Metropolitan Church. Six of the Biſhops Coaches drawn each by ſix Horſes, begin the March, attended by twenty four Footmen and ſixteen Pages; and above fourſcore Gentlemen richly dreſs'd walk before the Biſhop's Coach, guarded by two Files of Halbardiers. The Maſter of the Horſe and the Marſhal of the Court walk by the ſides of the Coach, the latter bearing the Sword of the Duke of *Franconia* with the Point uppermoſt; and the Coach is ſurrounded by *Heydukes*, and followed by a company of Life-Guards.

The Biſhop of *Wurtzbourg* has one Prerogative which the other Biſhops have not; for while he officiates his Great Marſhal bears the Sword of the Duke of *Franconia* naked and upright till the Conſecration of the Elements, and then he puts it up in the Scabbard, and carries it before the Prince with the Point downwards; which is a Diſtinction I take to be altogether as extraordinary as that of the Abbot and Count *de Gemblours*, the firſt Nobleman of the States of *Brabant*, who has the Privilege of celebrating Maſs with his Boots and Spurs on.

The Biſhop's ordinary Expence is perfectly ſuitable to the Dignity of a great Prince; and his

Table, which is commonly ſpread for eighteen Gueſts, is ſerv'd with a Magnificence to the degree of Profuſion; not that this Prince affects Pomp, but becauſe he is oblig'd to conform to the antient eſtabliſh'd Cuſtoms of his Court. This Prelate gives very great Application to the Affairs of his Government, for which purpoſe he riſes early in the Morning: When he is dreſs'd he ſpends ſome time in Prayer, and then confers with his Miniſters, or with the Chiefs of the ſeveral Tribunals. At ten o'clock he hears Maſs, and afterwards goes to Council: At Noon he dines, and after having ſate an Hour and an half at Table, he retires, and ſpends the Evening with his Family, which is numerous, and compos'd of Perſons of Worth. In Carnival-time he makes great Entertainments twice or thrice a-week for all the Nobility of *Wurtzbourg*, and there is ſometimes a Ball and even Maſquerades at Court. In the Winter time Perſons of Rank have Aſſemblies for Gaming; and during the Carnival there's a Ball three times a-week in a Houſe kept by the Undertaker, at which they beſpeak Places beforehand, and where Foreigners are admitted *gratis*. All this wou'd be pretty enough if the Company was not ſometimes diſturb'd by People in Liquor, tho' 'tis true that ſuch are not very chagrining to the Natives, who are us'd to ſuch Sights; and the very Ladies, who elſewhere fly ſuch Company, do not ſeem to have a ſtaunch Averſion to them. Foreigners have reaſon to applaud the Civilities both of the Prince and his Courtiers. As for my own part I am infinitely oblig'd for the Reſpect they have been pleas'd to ſhew to me. The Prince heaps his Favours on me, and the Nobility their Courteſies. If it were not that one is forc'd to drink hard, I ſhou'd like the Town very well. Two Days hence I ſhall ſet out for *Anſpach*, and from

from thence I ſhall go by the way of *Nuremberg* and *Bareith* to *Prague*. I ſhall write to you by the very firſt Opportunity: Mean time I am, *&c.*

LETTER IX.

SIR, *Anſpach, Sept.* 29, 1729.

I CAME in one day from *Wurtzbourg* to ANSPACH, which is twelve Miles, and paſs'd thro' two or three little Towns not worth naming. *Anſpach* is the Capital of the Margraviate ſo call'd, and the Reſidence of the Margrave of *Brandenbourg*, Chief of the ſecond Branch of that Family ſettled in *Franconia*. 'Tis a ſmall but pretty Town, and very well built. It has no Fortifications, and is only ſhut in by Walls ſurrounded with Walks which form a Bulwark. The Prince has a large Caſtle or Palace building here, which when finiſh'd will be magnificent. The late Margrave, Father of the preſent, had begun to build it according to the Models of an *Italian* Architect; but as he did nothing to anſwer the Opinion conceiv'd by the *Germans* that the *Italians* are the beſt Architects in the World, perhaps becauſe he was oblig'd to patch up old Walls for the ſake of ſome Rooms; Madame the Margravine Regent, Mother of the young Margrave, continued what her Huſband began, but chang'd the Architect, and makes uſe of the Baron *de Zochau* to carry on thoſe Works; who, tho' oblig'd to conform to what was done by the *Italian*, has ſucceeded much better than that Foreigner. Madame the Margravine Regent has like-

wiſe caus'd ſome noble Gardens to be laid out; and this Princeſs ſpares no Coſt for embelliſhing the Town of *Anſpach*.

The Margravine Regent * is of the Family of *Wurtenberg*, and may be compar'd for Beauty with the fineſt Princeſſes in the World. Being left a Widow at twenty nine Years of Age, ſhe renounc'd all Pleaſures, and thought of nothing but the Education of her Son, and the Affairs of her Regency; both of which Duties this Princeſs diſcharges in ſuch a manner that her Subjects bleſs her Government, and the young Margrave cannot but have very great Obligations to her.

Madame the Margravine, beſides a charming Perſon, has a ſparkling Wit and a ſolid Judgment, which ſhe has taken care to cultivate by great reading, and maintains by a Piety and Charity truly Chriſtian. There is in all her Actions ſuch Politeneſs, and ſo much Good-nature, as gain her the hearts of all Perſons. In fine, without flattering this Princeſs, I can aſſure you that her Life is a Pattern of Virtue. She is wean'd from all the Vanities of the Age; ſhe wears neither Gold nor Lace, and has given her Diamonds, which were of very great value, to her Son. She keeps ſo retir'd to her Apartment that ſhe is never ſeen but at Church, at Table, or when ſhe gives Audience; which ſhe never refuſes to any body unleſs when ſhe is tir'd. She is inceſſantly employ'd, and takes Delight in it. She is her own Miniſter, and her Counſellors are only the Executioners of her Orders.

'Tis pity that *Germany* is ſo ſoon like to loſe a Princeſs who does her Country ſo much Honour: The Margravine is in ſo declining a Condition that

* *Chriſtina-Charlotta de Wurtenberg*, Margravine Dowager of *Brandenbourg-Anſpach*, who was Regent for her Son, dy'd at *Anſpach* in 1730, ſoon after ſhe had reſign'd the Regency to this young Margrave, and match'd him to *Frederica-Louiſa*, ſecond Daughter of the King of *Pruſſia*.

that there's no hopes of her Recovery. The Phyſicians have actually told her ſo; but the Princeſs, far from being terrify'd at the ſad Tidings, receiv'd it like a Chriſtian Heroine: *God gave me my Life*, ſaid ſhe to her Phyſicians, *he will take it from me when he pleaſes, his Will be done.* She continues to live in the way ſhe always did; and the Approach of Death, which ſhe ſees advancing to her with ſlow Pace, gives her no Trouble nor Tremor; but ſubmitting to the Decrees of Providence, ſhe waits with Reſignation for that awful Moment which often makes the ſtouteſt Hearts tremble.

The young Margrave is actually at *Paris*, ſo that I cou'd have given you no manner of Account of this Prince, if I had not had the Honour to ſee him two Years ago. He was born the 12th of *May*, 1712. He is a handſome, comely, lively Man, has an extraordinary Memory, and if Age matures his Underſtanding, bids fair to be one day a Prince of a ſublime Genius. His Governour was M. *de Bremer*, a Gentleman of *Livonia*; and his Præceptor M. *Neukirch* *, celebrated for ſeveral Eſſays in Poetry.

Notwithſtanding the Reform which Madame the Margravine made in her Court when ſhe came to the Regency, 'tis ſtill very numerous. The Count *de Caſtel* is the firſt Man at this Court, and has the Title of Lord Steward. His Lady commonly attends Madame the Margravine, and does the Offices of Lady of Honour without affecting the Title. M. *de Bremer*, the Baron *de Seckendorf*, and the Baron *de Zochau*, are Privy Counſellors; and the Baron *de Kinſberg* is Marſhal of the Court. As to the Troops the Margravine Regent only keeps up

* This was *Benjamin Neukirch*. He put *Telemachus* into Verſe, and was the Author of a great many other Works, which ſhew that the *German* Language is capable of conveying as fine Sentiments as thoſe which are more us'd by Authors. He dy'd lately at *Anſpach*.

ſuch a number as is neceſſary to furniſh her Quota to the Empire, and to guard her Perſon.

The Margraviate of *Anſpach* is very much interſperſed with Woods, which makes it a fine Country for Hunting. 'Tis ſaid that it brings in 500000 Crowns every Year to its Sovereign. The principal Towns are *Anſpach* and *Schwabach*, in which Manufactures are erected that do great Prejudice to the City of *Nuremberg*.

I think I ought not to omit acquainting you with two things which are fondly believ'd by the common People, and which the Landlord of the Houſe where I quarter'd affirm'd to me to be Facts. The one is, that there are no Rats in all the Country of *Anſpach*, ſince one of the Family of the Rat-killing St. *Hubert* paſs'd that way. The other is of the ſame Tenor, and admitted for a certain Truth by every Subject in the Dominions of the Houſe of *Brandenbourg*, *viz.* When any one of this Family dies, whether Prince or Princeſs, a Woman in White always appears juſt before in the Palace. I know not whether you ever heard any thing concerning this Propheteſs of Ill Luck. Be that as it will, the Story which is told of her is this:

Joachim II. Elector of *Brandenbourg* having a mind to enlarge his Palace at *Berlin*, wanted to buy in ſeveral Houſes; but an old Woman, the Owner of one of thoſe Houſes, reſolv'd not to ſell it to him upon any Terms. The Elector finding her ſo obſtinate ſent her the Purchaſe-Money and turn'd her out of it; upon which the old Woman ſwore in a Rage that ſhe wou'd be an eternal Plague to *Joachim* and his Poſterity. They pretend that the good Lady keeps her Word, and that ſhe haunts all the Palaces of the *Brandenbourg* Family. Yet I never heard any body at *Berlin* ſay they had ever ſeen her there, tho' that is the Place where ſhe ought naturally to have taken up her head Quarters.

My

My Landlord added to theſe fine Stories that the Margravine would not die yet a while becauſe the Woman in White had not yet appear'd to any body at Court.

I am, &c.

LETTER X.

SIR, *Carlſbad, October* 10, 1729.

WHEN I took leave of the Court of *Anſpach*, I was honour'd with a precious mark of the Margravine's Goodneſs, *viz.* a weighty Gold Medal; and now I am again upon my Journey. I was not many hours in travelling from *Anſpach* to *Nuremberg*, thro' a Country extremely ſandy, but very well cultivated, and interſpers'd with conſiderable Villages which in our Country wou'd be reckon'd Towns.

So much has already been ſaid by others of the City of NUREMBERG, that I have very little to add to it. I aſſure you this Town is the moſt diſagreeable Place in *Europe* to live in. The Patricians are the People of the firſt Rank there, and lord it like the petty Nobles of *Venice*. The Government here too has very great Reſemblance with the *Venetian*, and they have a ſort of Doge. In ſhort they are very much like the Frog in the Fable that ſtrove to ſwell itſelf to the Size of the Ox. Of theſe Patricians ſome are very rich, but they are ſo rude that no body viſits them, and they ſcarce viſit one another. Perhaps you will aſk me what I mean by the Term *Patricians?* 'Tis this; they are Gentle-

men: There are Patrician Families old enough to diſpute Antiquity with any of the Nobility whatſoever, and who were formerly admitted into all the Chapters. But now the caſe is otherwiſe; for the Nobility not only exclude them out of the Chapters, but diſpute their being Gentlemen; pretending that they derogate from the Title by their Magiſtratical Offices. Such is, you know, our *Germanic* Vanity; the things which are honourable in other Countries, are with us diminutive: The Court, the Sword, and the Church, are the only Profeſſions that a Gentleman can follow: If he has not the Talents proper for one or other of theſe, or if Fortune frown upon him, he had better be out of the World than take any Offices of the Magiſtracy upon him, or enter into Trade: He had better beg Alms nobly than marry beneath himſelf. But I ſhall not here ſet up for a Cenſor of the *Germanic* Cuſtoms. Let us talk of *Nuremberg*. This City has 6 Gates, 12 Conduits, and 118 Wells. Of the Churches St. *Laurence*'s is the biggeſt: There's a great many Reliques in it, particularly a part of the Manger in which our Saviour was laid, a piece of his Garment, and three Links of the Chains which bound St. *Peter*, St. *Paul*, and St. *John*. As the *Lutherans* make no great account of thoſe Reliques, they wou'd do well to give them to ſome poor Catholic Convent which would thereby ſoon be enrich'd.

You know that the Government here is altogether Evangelical, *i. e. Lutheran*. The Catholics have a ſmall Church in the Houſe of the Teutonic Order: The *Calviniſts* go to Church in the Territory of *Anſpach*; but the *Jews* are not tolerated becauſe 'tis ſaid they formerly poiſoned the Wells. They live in a Place not far from *Nuremberg*, but come to Town every Morning, paying ſomething for their Entrance, have an old Woman ſet over them

them who is commonly both their Guard and their Guide, and are permitted to trade and trick wherever they can till Night, when they are obliged to retire.

In the Church of the Hoſpital is kept *Charlemain*'s Crown, ſaid to weigh fourteen Pounds, the Sceptre and the Globe, in ſhort all the Ornaments of Empire except *Charlemain*'s Sword ſaid to have been brought from Heaven by an Angel, the ſame very likely that carry'd the holy Vial and the Oriflamb to *France*. That Sword is kept at *Aix la Chapelle*.

The Trade of *Nuremberg* is very much fallen off; for beſides that the Toys and Knick-knacks which were formerly made in this City are much out of faſhion, eſpecially in *Germany*, the Manufactures which the Margraves of *Bareith-Anſpach* have ſettled in their Dominions do conſiderable Prejudice to *Nuremberg*.

The Inhabitants of this City may be, (at leaſt I think 'em ſo) the honeſteſt People in the World, but they are the moſt horrible Complimenters that I know. I cou'd not ſet my Foot in a Shop, but the Maſter, the Miſtreſs, the Children and the Apprentices waited on me into the very Street thanking me for the Honour I had done them. My Landlord too who ſaw me go in and out twenty times a day, receiv'd me always with great Ceremony, and aſk'd me how I did. And when I went out he pray'd me not to leave his Houſe long in Contempt, without honouring it with my Preſence.

Nuremberg is the richeſt and moſt potent Imperial City next to *Hambourg*. The Domain of *Nuremberg* is even much larger than that of *Hambourg*, but the latter bears the Bell for Wealth. 'Tis ſaid that *Nuremberg* has ſeven other Towns in its Territory, with 480 Villages and Pariſhes. Yet for

all this 'tis not a rich City; for the Patricians pocket all the Money, and the Citizens are poor.

Next Day after my Arrival at *Nuremberg* I ſet out for *Chriſtian*-ERLANGEN, a Town in the Margraviate of *Brandenbourg-Bareith* which owes its flouriſhing State to a Colony of *French* People who fled out of *France* on account of their Religion.

Forty Years ago *Erlangen* was but a little Village in the middle of a Foreſt of Fir-Trees. The Margrave *Chriſtian* giving ſhelter to the *French* who left their Country after the Revocation of the Edict of *Nantz*, aſſign'd them *Erlangen* to ſettle in. When they cut down the Woods they built the Town, to which they gave the Name of *Chriſtian-Erlangen*, in Memory of *Chriſtian* their Benefactor. All the Streets are in a ſtrait Line. The *French* have ſet up all ſorts of Manufactures here, and have made it one of the prettieſt Towns of *Germany*. Madame * *Elizabeth-Sophia* of *Brandenbourg*, ſecond Daughter of the Elector *Frederic-William*, and third Wife of the Margrave *Chriſtian* Founder of *Erlangen*, caus'd a very handſome Palace to be built in the great Square of this City, to which there are noble Gardens. 'Tis at preſent occupy'd by *Sophia* of *Saxe-Weiſſenfels*, Widow of the laſt Margrave of *Bareith*. This Princeſs was to have dwelt at *Neuſtadt*, which was ſettled on her for her Dowry; but as 'tis a loneſome, melancholy, ſcoundrel Place, the Margrave Regent was willing ſhe ſhould live at *Erlangen*. The Margravine Dowager was one of the moſt beautiful Princeſſes in the World, of which ſhe ſtill preſerves the fair Remains, and none can have an Air more grand. She lives at

* This Princeſs was the Dowager of the Duke of *Courland*, when ſhe marry'd the Margrave *Chriſtian* who was very old. After his Death ſhe marry'd the Duke of *Saxe-Meinungen* whom ſhe has ſurviv'd. She reſides at *Coburg* in *Franconia*. She never had but one Son, and that was he who marry'd the preſent *Czarina*, but dy'd ſoon after his Marriage.

at *Erlangen* with all the Dignity becoming her Rank. Foreigners are very well received at her Court, and particularly by the Princeſs herſelf, who for Politeneſs has few Equals.

From *Chriſtian-Erlangen* I went in leſs than a Day to *Bamberg*, tho' I ſtay'd two or three Hours at FORCHEIM a Place in the Biſhoprick of *Bamberg*, whoſe Buildings appear'd to me to be old and out of repair.

The Biſhoprick of BAMBERG is the firſt Biſhoprick of the Empire. The Biſhop is Suffragan to no Archbiſhop. He depends only as to Spirituals upon the Holy See, and receives the Pall as an Archbiſhop. He has moreover this Diſtinction, that the Electors are his great Officers as they are thoſe of the Empire, and he has the Privilege of ſummoning them to come and do the Duties of their Offices on the Day of his Inſtallation. I have not heard that any Biſhop ever made uſe of this mighty Prerogative, for the Retinue which thoſe great Officers would bring along with them might be a Charge to him. The great Privileges which this Prelate enjoys are counter-balanc'd by one Mortification; for if the Electors happen to chuſe an Emperor who has no Dominions, the Biſhop of *Bamberg* would be oblig'd to yield him his Epiſcopal City and Palace. 'Tis ſaid that the Emperor has the ſame Right to *Rome*, and that if he ſhould chuſe that ancient City of the World for his Reſidence, the Pope wou'd be oblig'd to yield him the Palace of the Vatican and to retire to that of St. *John de Lateran*. But I really think that the Holy Father and the Biſhop of *Bamberg* will not be ſo ſoon turn'd out.

The late Elector of *Mentz*, *Lotharius Francis de Schonborn* who was alſo Biſhop of *Bamberg*, embelliſh'd the City with a new Epiſcopal Palace, a great and ſtately Building that ſtands on an Eminence,

nence, from whence there is an extenſive Proſpect of various Beauties.

The City of *Bamberg* is very well built, and has beautiful Churches. Herein is to be ſeen the Tomb of the Emperor *Henry* II. and his Wife the Empreſs *Cunegonda*. This Princeſs lies at the right Hand of her Huſband, becauſe ſhe kept her Virginity to her Death. Was not this abuſing the Sacrament of Marriage?

The Biſhop who fills the Epiſcopal See of *Bamberg* is *Frederic-Charles*, Count de *Schonborn*, Vice-Chancellor of the Empire. This Prelate being Miniſter of State to the Emperor commonly reſides at *Vienna*, and is now there, ſo that I have nothing to ſay to you of his Court; but I reckon I ſhall be able to give you ſome Account of him after I have paid my Reſpects to him at *Vienna*.

The Neighbourhood of *Bamberg* is very agreeable, but as one comes to it from *Nuremberg* thro' a certain Foreſt of Fir-Trees, it ſtrikes a Man with Horror to find an Avenue to it a quarter of a League in length form'd by Wheels and Gibbets. This, at firſt ſight gives a Stranger no very great Idea of the Honeſty of the People; but he is of another Opinion when he comes to know that theſe expos'd Malefactors are for the moſt part Foreigners. The Biſhoprick of *Bamberg* is contiguous to ſeven or eight different States, and the Town it ſelf lies in the greateſt Road of all *Germany*, which is the Reaſon that 'tis ſo infeſted by Rogues from all Quarters. In the time of the Elector of *Mentz*, *Bamberg* was their *Ne plus ultra*, for that Prince gave them no Quarter: Being an Enemy to Wickedneſs and one of the greateſt Juſticiaries that we have had in *Germany*, he ſent all to the Gallows that deſerv'd Hanging.

About a League out of the Town the Biſhop has a charming Pleaſure-Houſe; but there is nothing in all

all *Germany* more magnificent than the Caſtle of POMMERSFELDEN belonging to the Count *de Schonborn*, which is three Leagues from *Bamberg*. *Francis Lotharius de Schonborn* Elector of *Mentz* caus'd this ſtately Fabric to be built, the whole of which forms a great Body of Building flank'd by two Pavilions with two advanc'd Wings. The whole is regularly built, and decorated with well-fancy'd Architecture. The Entry is ſupported by ſeveral Colonnades, where the firſt thing that preſents it ſelf is the grand Stair-Caſe, which is extraordinary magnificent, and perhaps one of the beſt contrived in *Europe*. This Entry leads into a Salon which ſerves as a Paſſage to the Garden; 'tis in form of a Grotto adorn'd with ſeveral Fountains, Columns, and Statues of Marble: The Cieling is painted as well as the Sky-Light of the Stair-Caſe, and the Arches of the principal Apartments. They are all painted by Hands that the Elector ſent for on purpoſe from *Italy*. I don't give you the Particulars of the great Salon, nor of the Apartments, becauſe it would take up a Volume. The whole are laid out with Art, and furniſh'd with great Choice, Judgment and Splendor.

The Stables anſwer exactly to the Caſtle which they front. They are built in form of a Half-Moon with a Pavilion in the middle, which is an oval Salon, from both Sides of which you ſee all the Horſes. The Mangers are of Marble in form of Shells, and the Racks of Iron neatly wrought in form of a Baſket or Scuttle.

The Salon in the middle of the two Stables is painted in Freſco, and looks one way to the Court, and the other to the Riding-Houſe, where the Elector us'd to ſee the Horſes manag'd belonging to the Studs of his Biſhoprick near *Bamberg*, one of the beſt in *Germany*.

The Gardens of *Pommersfelden* are very anſwerable to the Magnificence of the Buildings: In a

word, every Thing belonging to this fine Houſe is worthy of it. The Builder of it had ſublime Ideas: He ſpared no Coſt to leave Monuments of his Grandeur and Wealth to Poſterity, and has made a Houſe of *Pommersfelden* which really ſurpaſſes ſome Royal Palaces. But 'tis time to take you out of this fine Place and to carry you back to *Bamberg*.

There is a good Number of the Nobility ſettled in this Town. The Chapter conſiſts of Perſons of Quality: It has the Right of chuſing the Biſhop; and 'tis he who governs in the Abſence of the Prince. Such a Reſort as here is of the Nobility makes the Time paſs away agreeably; but they drink as hard here as at *Fulde* and *Wurtzbourg*, ſo that it looks as if Drinking was an inſeparable Function of the Eccleſiaſtical Courts. Having ſome Relations in this Town I ſtay'd there three Days, during which I had the Pleaſure of Drinking every Day with one of my Couſins out of a great Goblet of ſolid Gold which weigh'd to the Value of a thouſand Ducats. You can't imagine how well the Wine went down out of a Cup of that Value. I heartily wiſh'd that my Couſin wou'd have dealt by me as *Joſeph* did by *Benjamin*, and that he had put up his Cup in my Portmanteau, provided he wou'd not have ſent to fetch me back again, as the Governour of *Egypt* did his Brother; but this was what my dear Couſin did not think fit to do. He made me drink my Skinfull of Wine, and only wiſh'd me my Pockets full of Gold.

From *Bamberg* I went to BAREITH the Reſidence of the Margrave of *Brandenbourg*. The elder of the two Branches of that Family ſettled in *Franconia*. *John George* Elector of *Brandenbourg* divided his Dominions between his three Sons: He left the Electorate with its Appendages to his eldeſt Son, and gave the Margraviate of *Culmbach* to *Chriſtian* his ſecond Son, and that of *Anſpach* to his third Son.

Chriſtian

Chriſtian form'd two Branches, that of *Bareith* and that of *Culmbach*. The Branch of *Bareith* became extinct in 1726, by the Death of *George-William*, whoſe Widow lives at *Erlangen*. *George-Frederic-Charles* Margrave of *Culmbach* his Couſin, ſucceeded him. This Prince has five Children, *viz.* * two Princes and three † Princeſſes. He marry'd *Dorothy* of *Holſtein-Beck* at *Berlin* in 1709. I had then the Honour to ſee him: He was a Prince of a noble Aſpect, very civil, good-natur'd, and temperate, and a Lover of Books and Men of Learning. He did an Act of Generoſity that perhaps is not to be parallel'd, and which I relate to you as the moſt authentic Teſtimony that can be of his Good-nature and Integrity.

His Predeceſſor had left an empty Exchequer and a great many Debts; and the Margrave at his Acceſſion to the Regency was oblig'd to pay the King of *Pruſſia* 460000 Florins, upon condition that his Majeſty wou'd renounce any Pretenſions he might have to the Margraviate, by virtue of the Reſignation of all Rights to the Succeſſion which had been made by the Margrave of *Culmbach* his Father, in favour of *Frederic* I. King of *Pruſſia*. To raiſe this Sum on People already overburden'd by the common Taxes, was to ſeek their Ruin. The Margrave in pity of their miſerable Condition, choſe rather to borrow this Money of the States of the Circle of *Franconia* at great Intereſt. When he found himſelf in peaceable poſſeſſion of his Dominions by the Payment made to the King of *Pruſſia*, he undertook to pay off not only his own, but the Debts of his Predeceſſor. To enable himſelf to do this,

* The Hereditary Prince who is the eldeſt, marry'd the Princeſs Royal of *Pruſſia* in 1731.

† The eldeſt of the Princeſſes, *Sophia-Chriſtiana-Louiſa* was marry'd in 1731 to the Prince *Alexander de la Tour* and *Taxis*. She lately embrac'd the *Romiſh* Religion.

this, he began by turning off his Court, kept but a ſmall Number of Counſellors and Gentlemen, and diſbanded 3000 Men of the Troops which the late Margrave kept in pay to no purpoſe. He reduc'd his Table to the greateſt Frugality; his Clothes were plain, and he avoided Magnificence and Gaming. Some time after this, he made another Reform in his Houſe, and kept up but a very ſmall Number of Domeſtics. He eſtabliſh'd a Council of Regency, and to ſave the Expence which his Rank as a Sovereign would have engag'd him in whether he wou'd or not, he left his Dominions, and went to live incognito with the Hereditary Prince his Son at *Geneva*. I believe that both of them are actually at *Montpellier**. He is reſolv'd not to return to his Dominions till all his Debts are paid off. Mean time his Subjects wiſh for his Return with Impatience, for he has ſuch a Kindneſs for them, and governs them with ſuch Mildneſs that they look on him as their Father and Benefactor. This Retirement of the Margrave from the Splendors of Sovereignty is the more to be commended becauſe 'tis abſolutely voluntary: He was not at all oblig'd to pay the Debts of his Predeceſſor; for they were of ſuch a Nature as not to be rank'd among the Debts of the Government. Nevertheleſs it was his Pleaſure to do it, and he choſe rather to abridge himſelf of the Charms of Sovereignty than that People, whoſe Faith in the Government had made them part with their Money, ſhou'd loſe their Debts. Such a glorious Action as this, is in my Judgment equal to the Laurels of twenty Victories: This was owing to his Virtue, whereas Victory is generally the Conſequent of Chance and Fortune.

You will eaſily imagine that while the Sovereign is abſent this City is not very gay. It appear'd

* The Margrave and the Prince are now return'd to *Bareith*, where they live with all the Splendor of Sovereignty.

pear'd to me the more melancholy becauſe I had ſeen it in the time of the late Margrave, at whoſe Court there was continual Feaſting and Jollitry.

The City of *Bareith* is inferior to *Erlangen*. The Margrave's Palace is a great old Pile, but not very commodious, and meanly furniſh'd. This Prince has a very pretty Houſe, a League from *Bareith*, call'd the *Hermitage*, which was built by Order of the late Margrave.

It ſtands in the middle of a thick Wood, in which there are a great many Pavilions built, without any Symmetry indeed, but very ingeniouſly contriv'd within for the Uſe to which they ſerve. When the late Margrave came to the Hermitage, he and his whole Court were in the Dreſs of Hermits. There were certain Hours in which the Hermit Brothers went to pay a Viſit to the Hermit Siſters, who liv'd in the Pavilions. The Brothers and Siſters who gave each other Collations, were ſubject to certain Rules from which they could not be diſpenſed but by the Remiſſion of the Superior of either Sex, who were then the Margrave, and his Lady the Margravine. In the Evening they met again in the Hall of the Caſtle, where they ſupp'd; and that every thing might be done according to the Rules, at the beginning of the Supper certain Verſes were read, or ſome little Story compos'd by one or other of the Hermit Brothers; then Silence was broke, and every one gave his Opinion upon what had been read, upon which there enſued a general Converſation. The Supper held till pretty late, and was commonly followed with a Ball. No body could be admitted into the Order without the general Conſent of the Chapter. And the Superior himſelf had no Right but to propoſe ſuch as were Candidates for Admiſſion. To give you all the Statutes of this Society, would be too tedious; beſides I ſhould be afraid of adding or diminiſhing

miniſhing to them, becauſe I only have them from Tradition.

The Margrave has a Mother ſtill alive, *viz. Sophia-Chriſtina* Counteſs of *Wolffenſtein*, who lives at *Copenhagen* with her Daughter the Princeſs Royal * of *Denmark*. The King of *Denmark* grants her the Title of Royal Highneſs, and cauſes the ſame Honours to be paid to her as to the Princeſſes of his Family.

The Margrave has alſo three Brothers and two Siſters. The eldeſt of the Brothers is a Major-General and Colonel of Foot in the Service of the Emperor, and the two others are in the Service of *Denmark*. The two Princeſſes are marry'd, one to the Prince Royal of *Denmark*, the other to *George-Albert* Prince of *Eaſt-Frieſland*. So that the intire Family of *Brandenbourg-Culmbach* conſiſts of Princes and Princeſſes to the Number of twelve.

The Revenues of this Margrave are pretty near the ſame as thoſe of the Margrave of *Anſpach*. His Fortreſs is the Caſtle of *Plaſſenberg*.

From *Bareith* I came in two Days to CARLSBAD, a Place of Fame for its hot Waters, of which there are two Sorts differing from one another both in Strength and Heat. They derive their Source from the middle of a River form'd by Torrents from the neighbouring Mountains, whoſe Waters are extremely cold; yet they make not the leaſt Alteration in the heat of the Mineral Waters. They are ſaid to be very wholeſome for all Sorts of Maladies, particularly for the Gravel, and for the Barrenneſs of Women. M. *Hofman*, a celebrated Profeſſor of Phyſic at *Hall*, has publiſhed a Treatiſe, wherein he examines the nature of thoſe Waters, and preſcribes how they ought to be uſed. The Manner is very diſagreeable; you are obliged to be ſhut up in a Room, and be the Weather ever ſo hot,

* She is the preſent Queen.

hot, the Stove muſt be heated, you muſt be tormented by taking off two or three Pots of Water, which are almoſt equal to thirty Chocolate Cups; beſides walking about very much, and ſweating great Drops.

To make amends for the Fatigue of the Morning, there is good Company to be ſeen here all Day long; for Abundance of Strangers come to *Carlsbad*, particularly the Nobility of *Bohemia* and *Auſtria*. There are public Walks and a great Room adjacent, where they play, dance and walk till the Evening. They who love to live by Rule retire without Supper.

Whoever would be well accommodated at *Carlsbad* muſt carry three things thither with him, his own Bed, Wine, and Cook; tho' a Foot-boy may ſerve for the Cook, becauſe one is generally invited by the *Bohemian* or *Auſtrian* Noblemen, who always keep a great Table, and love Company to dine with 'em.

The Inhabitants of *Carlsbad* are generally Armourers, who work very neat and vaſtly cheap. At the Seaſon for uſing the Waters, Merchants flock hither from all Parts, and *Carlsbad* is ſuperior to many great Towns. I had a great deal of Amuſement during the two different Seaſons that I paſs'd there, and I contracted a World of good Acquaintance, who, I hope, will be of Service to me at *Prague*, for which Place I propoſe to ſet out tomorrow. I am, *&c.*

LETTER XI.

SIR, *Prague, November 15, 1729.*

I HAVE now been a Month in this City, yet it ſeems but as a Day; for I find infinite Amuſements here, and a thouſand things that I like, only I want your Company. The City of PRAGUE is ancient, and has been time out of mind, the Seat of the Kings of *Bohemia*. 'Tis without diſpute one of the biggeſt Towns in *Europe*. 'Tis encompaſs'd with Ramparts, and as well fortified as a Place of that Extent can be, and commanded by ſeveral Hills, which 'tis impoſſible to level. This City is divided by the River *Molde* or *Muldaw*, into two Parts, *viz.* *Old Prague* and *Little Prague*; and during the Courſe of the laſt Century, it ſuffer'd the greateſt Cruelties that a City can poſſibly undergo in a time of War. The Archduke *Leopold* Biſhop of *Paſſau* ſurprized and plunder'd the leſſer Part, and would have done the ſame by the old Town, if the Emperor *Matthias* King of *Hungary* had not come in time to relieve it. Nine Years after this, *Prague* was again plunder'd by thoſe who were moſt concerned to preſerve it; I mean the Imperialiſts, who, after the Battle at *Weiſſenberg*, near *Prague*, wherein they defeated *Frederic* Elector Palatine whom a Party had choſe King of *Bohemia*, enter'd the City, and carried off ineſtimable Booty. *Prague* was uſed no better in 1631, by the Elector of *Saxony*, after that Prince made himſelf Maſter of *Bohemia*. The Great *Walſtein* of ſo much Note for

his Glorious Actions, and his Tragical Exit, recover'd *Bohemia* from the *Saxon* in 1632, and took *Prague* by Storm. Some time after this the *Swedes* attack'd it, and took the leſſer *Prague*; but could not force the old Town, it was ſo courageouſly defended by the Students and Burghers. The *Swedes* thereupon retired, and carry'd off immenſe Wealth. At length the Peace of *Weſtphalia* reſtored Tranquillity to *Bohemia* and the City of *Prague*, which has been ſubject ever ſince to the Houſe of *Auſtria*; and the Kingdom which before was Elective, had the Mortification to become Hereditary.

The Situation of *Prague* is pleaſant in the midſt of Gardens and fine Fields, and 'tis adorn'd with noble Buildings, of which the Houſes of the Counts *Tſchernin* and *Sternberg* are as fine as any. The Furniture of the former is extremely rich; there is a Gallery adorned with excellent Pictures, a Cabinet of choice Porcellane with entire Services of the fineſt *Indian Lacca*; and another Room full of fine Arms and other Curioſities. Count *Sternberg*'s Houſe is not ſo large, yet better contriv'd; and in *Rome* it ſelf would paſs for a fine Palace. But there is one built by the late Count *de Gallaſch*, who died Viceroy at *Naples*, that bears the Bell above all. You know that Nobleman was prodigiouſly rich and magnificent. He ſpared no Coſt in his Buildings. 'Tis pity the Houſe is not well ſituate, but it certainly would be ſo, if the young Count *de Gallaſch* was of the ſame Way of Thinking with his Father, who intended to have had five or ſix old Hovels belonging to it pull'd down to the ground, by which means he would have had a fine Square.

The Convents of both Sexes are another Ornament of this Great City. The Houſe of the Reverend Fathers the Jeſuits is one of the moſt magnificent. They have lately cauſed a Church to be built, which is one of the beſt adorned that I have

ſeen out of *Italy*. If you were but here, we would go together and ſee all thoſe Buildings. I would carry you firſt of all to the Cathedral, which is in leſſer *Prague*, on the Top of the Hill call'd *Ratſchin*, and from thence we would go and take a View of the Caſtle which is upon the ſame Hill.

The Metropolitan Church is a very ancient Structure, which was burnt down by the *Swedes*, and is only rebuilt in part. Its Magnificence and Beauty conſiſt in the thickneſs of its Walls and Arches; and the Architecture of this Church is ſuch that I fancy it would appear *Gothic* to the very *Goths* themſelves. 'Tis in this Cathedral that the Kings and Queens of *Bohemia* are conſecrated. The Archbiſhop of *Prague*'s Office is to perform the Unction upon both; but the Abbeſs of St. *George*, whoſe Abbey is alſo upon the Hill of *Ratſchin*, is to place the Crown upon the Head of the Queen, and in this Function ſhe is aſſiſted by the Wives of the Great Officers of the Crown.

In this Metropolitan Church are preſerved with great Veneration the Bodies of a couple of Saints extremely dear to the *Bohemians*. The one is St. *Wenceſlaus* King of *Bohemia*, the other St. *John Nepomucene*. The latter was very lately canonized by Pope *Benedict* XIII. at the Requeſt of the States of this Kingdom, who were at the whole Expence of the Ceremony, which was performed in the Church of St. *John de Lateran* at *Rome* with extraordinary Pomp.

The Story of this Saint is very ſingular: He was Confeſſor to the Wife of that cruel Emperor *Wenceſlaus*, who was depoſed by the Electors. That Prince being jealous of his Queen enjoined St. *John Nepomucene* to reveal that Princeſs's Confeſſions to him. He employed Preſents, Prayers and Threats, to perſuade the Saint to make this Diſcovery, but all to no purpoſe; upon which he cauſed him to be caſt

caſt headlong from the Bridge into the River of *Molde*. The Body was ſeen floating at ſome diſtance from the Place, attended with five Stars ſwimming on the Water; then he was added to the Number of the Saints and Martyrs, and his Corpſe was taken out of the River, and carried with Pomp to *Prague*, where it was interr'd in the Church of *Dain* in the old Town, of which he was a Canon. His Corpſe being found ſome Years ago, his Tongue appearing to be as freſh as ever, was taken out of his Mouth and put into a Silver Gilt Box; the Body was encloſed in a ſtately Coffin, and the whole carried with great Ceremony to the Cathedral. An Altar being erected in the middle of the right Wing of the Choir, there the Saint was interr'd in a Tomb of Silver Gilt; and the Tongue put into a ſort of Tabernacle where it has wrought and does ſtill work great Miracles. There is a great Concourſe of People hither from all Parts to invoke this Saint, whoſe Tomb is loaded with precious Gifts, and adorned by the Empreſs with a rich Canopy. But no body has given more illuſtrious Proofs of Devotion to St. *Nepomucene* than the Prince *de Schwartzenberg* * Maſter of the Horſe to the Emperor, and the Count *de Martinitz* Marſhal of the Imperial Court; who both aſcribe the Conception of their Wives, and the Birth of their Sons, to the Protection of that Saint, tho' I ſhould have thought all this feaſible enough without a Miracle. The Princeſs *de Schwartzenberg* had not been married many Years before ſhe had a Daughter †; her Husband had not ſeen her for fourteen Years after this, during which ſhe had no Children. This is no more than common; after they came together again Madam is brought to Bed of a Son, in which tho' there is nothing but what is very

* He had the Misfortune to be killed as he was hunting in *Bohemia*, by the Emperor himſelf in 1732.

† She is now Margravine of *Baden-Baden*.

natural, yet 'tis cry'd up for a Miracle; the Birth is aſcribed to the Devotion which the Princeſs paid to the Tomb of St. *Nepomucene* for nine Days together, and to make the Saint ſome amends, his Tomb and his Altar are adorn'd by a great many Veſſels of Silver and Silver gilt.

As to Count *Martinitz* there ſeems indeed to be better colour for a Miracle in his favour. He had been married fourteen or fifteen Years, and his Lady never given the leaſt Sign of Teemingneſs. She was in good plight of body, her Husband liv'd with her, and they went together ſeveral times to the Baths of *Carlsbad*, but all had ſignified nothing. The Count longing paſſionately for a Son had perform'd more than nine days Devotion ſucceſſively, for he went the laſt Holy Year to *Loretto* and to *Rome*. But Heaven deaf to his Cries granted him no Heir; at laſt knowing not what Saint to pray to, his Lady propos'd, that they ſhould go and worſhip nine days together at the Tomb of St. *Nepomucene*. They ſet out, they arrive at *Prague*, they proſtrate themſelves before the ſacred Tomb. Soon after, Madame *de Martinitz* proves with Child, and at nine Months end is delivered of a Son. You may ſay whatever you pleaſe, but ſuch a Favour ſure was worth ſome Lamps of ſolid Silver before the Saint's Tomb; and the Count *de Martinitz* full of Zeal and Gratitude has given ſome that are very magnificent.

The *Bohemians* have ſo great confidence in St. *John de Nepomucene*, that they have almoſt forgot St. *Wenceſlaus* their old Patron. There is no Church where St. *John* has not a Chapel, no Bridge without his Effigy; every body Gentle and Simple, Men and Women, wear his Picture as if it were the Badge of an Order, hanging to a ſtraw-colour'd Ribbon, and you would ſwear that all the *Bohemians* were Knights of St. *Louis*. In ſhort, St. *Nepomucene* is

the

the only Saint in vogue; and Preſents are heap'd upon him to ſuch a degree that if it continues much longer, he will be as rich as our Lady of *Loretto*.

The Palace or Caſtle which joins to the Cathedral is a great Building compoſed of ſeveral Main Bodies without Symmetry or Architecture. The Apartments are but low and plain, but here is one of the moſt beautiful Proſpects in the World. The great Hall in which the Royal Feaſt is kept on the Day of the Coronation of the Kings is the largeſt of the kind, next to the ſpacious Hall of *Weſtminſter*. The Palace-Gardens are large, but have nothing to recommend them beſides their Situation. The Tribunals of the Regency meet in the Palace: The firſt of theſe conſiſts of Stadtholders who are of the Emperor's Privy Council. They are to the Number of twelve, and repreſent the Sovereign. Moſt of them are the great Officers of the Crown. There muſt be always two of them private Gentlemen to take care of the Intereſts of the Gentry againſt the Nobility; for you muſt know that the Princes, Counts, and Barons, who compoſe the Nobility, form a ſeparate Body here, and would think it a Diſparagement to be call'd *Gentlemen*; tho' *Henry* IV. King of *France* counted it an honour to be the firſt Gentleman in his Kingdom, and King *Francis* I. whenever he affirmed a thing, ſaid, *Upon the Word of a Gentleman*.

The Chief of the Council of the Stadtholders is call'd the *Great Burgrave*, whoſe Dignity is the higheſt in the Kingdom. He repreſents the Perſon of the Emperor, and is inferior to none but the Chancery of *Bohemia* which always attends the Emperor.

The Bridge over the *Muldaw* which joins little *Prague* to the old Town, is one of the longeſt and moſt ſubſtantial Bridges in *Europe*. It has on both

ſides the Statues of ſeveral Saints, which if they had been done by a better hand, would have prov'd an Ornament. There is a Crucifix alſo which is pretended to be of Gold, and to have been erected formerly at the Expence of the *Jews*, purſuant to an Order of the Government, as a Puniſhment for their having crucified a Chriſtian Infant upon *Eaſter*-Day, to inſult the Memory of our Saviour's Death.

The *Jews* are the only Sectaries that are tolerated in *Bohemia*. There are ſome *Huſſites* ſtill ſubſiſting, but they keep ſo cloſe, that the Government does not ſeem to know that there are any at all. I was aſſured that in *Prague* alone there were no leſs than 80,000 *Jews*; whether there are quite ſo many, I know not; but 'tis certain they are very numerous. Their Quarter in the old City forms a little ſeparate Town. They have all the Trade in their own hands, follow all ſorts of Callings, and by their receiving all old-faſhion'd things in Payment, they quite ruin the Chriſtian Handicraftſmen. As theſe People multiply like Rabbets, 'tis ſaid the Emperor is going to iſſue an Ordinance prohibiting any but their eldeſt Sons to marry; the Report of which is ſo alarming to the *Jews* that they would advance great Sums to prevent its taking effect.

If we except *Rome*, *Paris*, and *London*, there is no City where there are more Gentry, or a Gentry that is more wealthy: Every body here lives grand; and in no Part of the World do the Nobility keep greater State, or take more Pride in their Subſtance. They are polite and civil to Strangers, whom they know to be Perſons of Quality. For my own part, I like them prodigiouſly; and I can ſafely ſay it, I have hardly met with a Foreigner who has not the ſame Notion of *Prague* that I have.

There

There is not a Gentleman in this Country but has ſeen at leaſt *Holland*, *France* and *Italy*, and indeed they are under ſome neceſſity of travelling, for the Education they have at home is none of the beſt. But they don't travel as People of their Birth and Fortunes ought to do. They are commonly attended by a ſort of Governors, who make it their Profeſſion to ramble abroad with young Gentlemen, and are for the moſt part *Walloons*, *Luxemburghers*, *Lorrainers*, or *Liegeois*, Soldiers of Fortune, without Education, and without Manners; who think 'tis enough for their Pupils to ſee Houſes and Churches, and having not the Courage or the Capacity to put themſelves forward, or even to ſhew their Heads, don't care that their Gentlemen ſhould keep Company. They tell *young Maſter*, that my Lord his Father, who put him under their Care, recommended Œconomy to them; that they might game at Aſſemblies, but that 'tis not well to play while they are travelling: Therefore the Spark is obliged to keep in his Quarters, or if he is perhaps permitted to go to the public Shews, even this Pleaſure, becauſe it is not to be had without Money, muſt be taken in Moderation; the Governor's Aim is only to crib all he can, and ſink his Pupil's Money into his own Purſe. This is ſo true that I have known ſome who never eat Suppers, yet always brought them to Accompt; many of 'em get a Profit by every thing they buy, and they make ſuch hard Bargains that 'tis ten to one if they don't chouſe the Merchant as well as their Pupil. If the Governor does not like the Place they come to, he muſt be gone, tho' it were the moſt proper Town in the World to form the young Gentleman; for the Governor only writes to the Father or Mother that the Air did not agree with their Son, and that therefore he had remov'd him. The Generality of theſe wretched Guides maintain that ſix Weeks or three

three Months Stay at moſt is ſufficient to know *Paris*; a Fortnight to be thoroughly acquainted with the Genius of the *Engliſh*; a Month to know *Rome*; a Week to ſee *Naples*; and ſo of the reſt: And when they have ſhewn their Gentleman at *Paris*, the Anatomical Wax-work and the Obſervatory; at *London*, the Lions in the Tower; at *Rome*, the Catacombs; and at *Naples*, the Liquefaction of St. *Januarius*'s Blood, and Mount *Veſuvius*; they think they have done great matters, and away they go without having made an Acquaintance with one Soul at any of the Courts. They have ſeen the King of *France* touch for the Evil; the King of *England* go to the Parliament-Houſe; and the Pope ſitting in his Elbow-Chair, diſtributing his Benedictions. With a Mind thus adorn'd, the young Man, after eighteen Months or two Years Abſence abroad, returns home. The Governor has two or three thouſand Florins, and ſometimes more as a Gratuity, beſides his Stipend. Again, the worthy *Mentor* makes a Bubble of the Father who truſts his Son with him, and behold now, he is ready for another Tour. One would think that, inſtead of travelling in this manner, it were better to ſend abroad for the Plans of all the Towns, I am ſure 'twould be cheaper; the Parents would have the comfort to ſee their Sons at home, and they would alſo have wherewithal to furniſh a little Box in the Country.

There are no People of Quality in the World more addicted to an expenſive way of Living than thoſe of *Prague*, which is the Reaſon that for all their immenſe Revenues they are ſometimes over Head and Ears in Debt; but by good Luck they have a Settlement which prevents them from total Ruin: For moſt of their Lands are intail'd for ever on the eldeſt Son of the Family, ſo that he can neither alienate nor incumber them without the Conſent

ſent of the whole Family, and of the King himſelf, which is a Thing very hard to be obtain'd. When an eldeſt Son of a Family has ſquander'd his Freehold, and runs himſelf more and more in debt, the Creditors, and ſometimes the Parents themſelves, preſent a Petition to the King and deſire a Sequeſtration. The King after being inform'd of the Liſt of the Debts, and of the *Majorat* (which is the Name they give here to the Lands that are intail'd) names Truſtees for the Adminiſtration of the Eſtates of the Spendthrift, who is allow'd a Penſion till all the Debts are paid. There's another very good Eſtabliſhment here for ſecuring the Sale of Landed Eſtates and Mortgages. Every Nobleman gives in a Particular of his Eſtate to a Tribunal which is call'd the *Landtaffel*, where the ſame is regiſter'd. When a Perſon wants to borrow Money or to make a Sale, the Lender or the Purchaſer has recourſe to the *Landtaffel*'s Office, where he ſees whether the Lands are incumber'd; and if the Borrower's Debts don't exceed two Thirds of the Price at which they are rated by the *Landtaffel*, he may lend his Money very ſafely.

Tho' the *Bohemians* are brave and good Soldiers, yet they don't love the Service, I mean the Gentry: Moſt of them prefer the Civil to Military Employments, and a private Life to Poſts in the Army or at Court. They are ſo us'd to be abſolute Maſters at their Eſtates where the Peaſants are their Slaves, and to be homag'd like Petty Sovereigns by the Burghers at *Prague*, that they don't care to reſide at *Vienna*, and to be oblig'd like other Subjects to pay their Court to the Sovereign and the Miniſters. As ſoon as a Gentleman of *Bohemia* comes of Age, he is oblig'd to take an Oath of Fidelity to the Emperor as his King; which is a Law as much binding on the Nobility as the Gentry; and none of 'em dare to go out of the Kingdom without expreſs

preſs Leave from the Emperor, on the Penalty of forfeiting his Eſtate. When the Noblemen are return'd from their Travels to *France* and *Italy*, they put in to be Chamberlains, not ſo much for the ſake of engaging themſelves to Attendance at Court as to procure a Precedency for their Wives, it being a Cuſtom with moſt of 'em to marry as ſoon as they come of Age. Afterwards they aim to be Counſellors of State, and Stadtholders, and this is the *Ne plus ultra* of their Preferments. The Counſellors of State challenge the Title of *Excellency:* But this is what thoſe who are not of that Denomination, and of as good Families as themſelves, ſcruple to allow them, ſo that generally ſpeaking they have it only given them by their Domeſtics and Dependants. So that one may ſay of their Excellencies what the Ducheſs of *Elbœuf* of the *Lorrain* Family ſaid in *France* concerning the Princes of *Bouillon*, that they were *Domeſtic Highneſſes*, becauſe none but their own Servants give them the Title of *Highneſs*.

Of all the great and wealthy Families, thoſe of *Lobkowitz*, *Kinſki*, *Schlick*, *Collobradt*, and *Martinitz* are the only ones that make a Figure at the Imperial Court. 'Tis true there are ſeveral other Noblemen at *Vienna* who have Lands in *Bohemia*, but then their Families are not originally deſcended from that Kingdom.

The *Kinſki*'s Family is actually the moſt ſplendid at Court. There are five Brothers of it in Employments. The eldeſt is the Great Chancellor of *Bohemia* *. The ſecond who is call'd Count *Stephen*, is Great Marſhal of *Bohemia*, a Miniſter of State, and the Emperor's Ambaſſador at the Court of *France* †. The third, Count *Philip*, is the Emperor's

* His fickle State of Health oblig'd him to quit this Employment, in which he was ſucceeded by the Count *de Collobradt*, who in 1734 was made Vice-Chancellor.

† He is return'd to *Vienna* ſince 1732.

ror's Miniſter Plenipotentiary to *Great Britain*; and the two youngeſt are in the Army, where one of them is a Lieutenant-Colonel. Count *Philip* was ſent Ambaſſador when but twenty nine Years old. He has demonſtrated by his Conduct that Wiſdom does not always ſtay for Age, and that he is the worthy Son of one of the greateſt Miniſters that * the Emperors *Leopold* and *Joſeph* ever had. The City of *Prague* is a very great Loſer by his Abſence, for he liv'd there with Splendor, and his Houſe was always open, particularly to Foreigners. For my own part I receiv'd ſuch Civilities there as I ſhall never forget.

As I have told you that the Nobility of *Bohemia* are the richeſt in the Empire, I muſt alſo acquaint you that the Peaſants there are miſerable to the laſt degree; their Perſons, and all they have, are at the Command of their Lord. The poor Wretches have often not a Bit of Bread to eat, in a Country which is one of the moſt plentiful in *Europe* for all ſorts of Proviſions. They dare not go from one Village to another to work, nor learn a Handicraft without their Lord's Conſent. So much Subjection keeps the poor Creatures always trembling and humble, ſo that if you do but ſpeak to 'em they are ready to lick the Duſt off your Feet. The Severity with which theſe People are us'd is really terrible, but 'tis as true on the other hand, that gentle Uſage has no Effect upon 'em; for they are exceſſively lazy and ſtubborn, and being moreover us'd to harſh Treatment from Generation to Generation, Blows ſcarce terrify them, tho' tis the only way to make 'em good for any thing.

The

* This Miniſter was Great Chancellor of *Bohemia* and a Knight of the *Golden Fleece*. Count *Joſeph* was nominated Ambaſſador to *Great Britain* in 1736, in the room of his Brother *Philip*.

The *Bohemians* have a great many Talents for Muſic, ſo that there's no Village, be it ever ſo ſmall, but the Maſs is ſung in Concert, and they are very happy at winding the Hunters Horn.

'Tis certain that this Kingdom is one of the beſt Countries in the Emperor's poſſeſſion, and next to *Hungary*, brings him in moſt Money.

Bohemia is a Country of States, whom the Emperor as King of it, ſummons every Year to the City of *Prague*. They conſiſt of the Clergy, Nobility, Gentry, and Towns. The Aſſembly is open'd by a Commiſſioner of the Emperor's Nomination, who lays before them his Imperial Majeſty's Demands. The States, ſuch is their Submiſſion and Zeal, grant the full Demand which is commonly a very great Sum; yet for all this, the *Bohemians* wou'd not complain of Taxes if the Emperor reſided among them, but they are ſorry to ſee their Country exhauſted to enrich the *Auſtrians* to whom they have a natural Averſion, and the *Auſtrians* as heartily hate the *Bohemians*.

I own to you I ſhall be ſorry to leave *Prague*. I take the *Bohemians* to be the beſt People upon Earth, and *Prague* to be one of thoſe Towns of the Empire where a Gentleman may have moſt choice of Company. The Ladies here are very amiable. Gaming, which may be call'd the univerſal Pleaſure, is carry'd as high here as they pleaſe in Houſes of the Quality, where Aſſemblies of both Sexes are held every Night, with good Cheer, particularly Pheaſants and Ortolans in plenty; and upon Fiſh-Days, there are Trouts, Salmon, and Cray-Fiſh; and that there may be nothing wanting, *Bohemia* likewiſe furniſhes good Wine. At the Eſtate of the young Count *Iſchernin* at *Melneg*, there is a red ſort not inferior to *Burgundy*. Of all theſe good Things many partake together, and for my part I own I am taken more with this Pleaſure

Pleaſure than any other, becauſe we make it laſt as long as we will, and then 'tis ſuited to all Ages.

There is a tolerable *Italian Opera* here. In Winter they have Races in ſtately Sledges: There is great Maſquerading, and they dance till they are ready to drop to the ground: For this end there are public Balls which are extraordinary ſplendid, and might be compar'd, if any can be compar'd, with the Balls at the *Hay-Market* in *London*.

In the Summer-Time when there is not ſo much Company in Town, theſe Aſſemblies are thinner. The Gentry meet at Night in a Garden belonging to the Prince *de Schwartzenberg*, where they game, chat, and walk up and down, after which they always go to ſome Houſe or other to ſup. When one has a mind to go to the Country, we are ſure of a good Reception, and the longer one ſtays the greater Pleaſure one gives to the Maſter of the Houſe. Here they paſs the Time in Hunting of all ſorts. Many of the Nobility keep Packs of Hounds, and others Hawks. The Generality keep Muſicians in their Service, ſo that let the Weather be what it will, one may be always amuſed in this Country. Beſides, one enjoys all the Freedom here that can be. After this, Sir, can you blame me for being ſorry to leave *Bohemia?* But 'tis what I'm now preparing to do, and I purpoſe to go to *Vienna*. You will be ſo good as to let me have a Line from you there; for to be plain with you, to write three Letters for one is too hard. 'Tis true that your's are of ineſtimable Value, and that therefore you are in the right not to be laviſh of them; but the ſame Reaſon juſtifies me in deſiring them. Adieu, Sir: Love me always a little, and be aſſur'd that no Man is more than I, *&c.*

LET-

LETTER XII.

SIR, *Vienna, Nov.* 30. 1729.

THE Court of VIENNA conſiſts of ſo many Princes and Noblemen that it cannot be deny'd to be the greateſt and moſt magnificent Court in *Europe*. Nevertheleſs Ceremonies, and the *Etiquette*, a Name by which they call ancient Uſages, give it an Air of Conſtraint that is to be ſeen no where elſe. There's a univerſal Out-cry againſt the latter, and even the Emperor ſometimes ſeems to be diſturb'd at it, yet 'tis obſerv'd as ſtrictly as if it was an Article of Religion, and nothing cou'd ſet it aſide but an Oecumenical Council.

Notwithſtanding this, a Foreigner of Quality (for ſuch he muſt be here) finds Advantages at this Court which he does not meet with either at *Paris* or *London*, I mean Opportunities of making Acquaintance. After a Perſon has been to wait on their Imperial Majeſties he need only be introduc'd into one ſingle Family to be ſoon made known to all the reſt, with this Advantage too, that go where you will, they ſpeak the *German*, *French*, *Italian*, and *Spaniſh* Languages; whereas a Foreigner at *Paris* is under a Neceſſity of ſpeaking *French*, and at *London Engliſh*; but a Man may ſhift very well at *Vienna* without the *High-Dutch* or *German* Language.

The Miniſters and great Lords of the Court are Civil, Courteous, and of eaſy Acceſs, eſpecially to ſuch as want no Favour of 'em, and come to *Vienna* only

only for Curioſity or Buſineſs. The Way of theſe Gentlemen is to return no Viſits; but they invite People to their Tables which being always well fill'd a Man ſoon gets a great deal of Acquaintance.

'Tis a very eaſy matter to be admitted to kiſs the Hands of their Imperial Majeſties, and even to obtain a private Audience of 'em; for there needs nothing more than to give in your Name to the Emperor's Great Chamberlain and the Empreſs's Great Maſter of the Houſhold. When you kiſs their Hands you bend one Knee to the Ground, and the Time for it is generally when their Majeſties paſs by to Dinner. But private Audiences are attended with more Ceremonies. The Great Chamberlain having appointed the Hour of meeting in his Antichamber, which is commonly five o' clock in the Evening, he repairs thither at that Time, and introduces to the Audience; and if he be abſent, 'tis done by the Chamberlain in Waiting. The Ceremony obſerv'd is this: The Emperor ſtands up under a Canopy, leaning with his Back againſt a Table, and an Arm-Chair by his Side. A Screen of red Velvet with Gold Fringe is plac'd at the Entrance of the Room, ſo that the Emperor is not perceiv'd at the opening of the Door. Behind this Screen near the Door, ſtands the Great Chamberlain. As ſoon as the Perſon comes in ſight of the Emperor he bends the Knee, which he repeats as he advances a little farther, and again when he comes near to his Imperial Majeſty. To theſe Genuflexions the Emperor gives a Nod of the Head, hearkens very attentively to the Perſon who addreſſes him, and returns a ſuccinct and gracious Anſwer. Then the Perſon kneeling with one Knee on the Ground kiſſes his Majeſty's Hand, after which he retires, going backwards and making three Genuflections as he did at Entrance. The ſame Ceremonies are obſerved at an Audience of the

Empreſs, who gives it ſtanding juſt as the Emperor does, with this Difference only that the Emperor is all alone, and the Empreſs is attended with one of her Ladies of Honour, who nevertheleſs ſtands off at ſuch a Diſtance that ſhe can't hear what is ſaid.

The Emperor commonly eats with the Empreſs and the Arch-Ducheſſes. But there are particular Days, ſuch as the Inſtallation of the Knights of the *Golden Fleece*, when the Empreſs herſelf is not allow'd to ſit down at Table with his Imperial Majeſty. The Dinner is commonly in the Emperor's Apartment, and the Supper at the Empreſs's. At Dinner two Chamberlains hold the Ewer for their Majeſties to waſh, and the Steward, or in his Abſence the Great Chamberlain preſents them the Napkin, which is done after the manner of *Spain*, with one Knee on the Ground. The Number of Diſhes at the Emperor's Table is forty eight, and the ſame at the Empreſs's; but tho' their Majeſties eat together they are each ſerv'd by their own Officers and Cooks. They commonly drink both together at the firſt Time; and till they have drank, the Ambaſſadors, Courtiers, and Ladies all wait at Dinner. After the Emperor has drank, the Steward, the Maſter of the Horſe, the Great Chamberlain, and the Captain of the Guards receive his Orders: The Lady of Honour in Waiting and the Empreſs's Steward receive her Orders in like manner. None remain in the Room but the Officers neceſſary for the Service, and ſome curious People who are not us'd to ſee Sovereigns eat. On Sundays, Saints Days, and Days of *Gala*, which is the Name they give here to Days of Feſtival and Ceremony, the Dinner is attended with Muſic. I forgot to acquaint you that the Emperor is always cover'd at Table, and that when he puts his Hat on the Ambaſſadors put on theirs.

At Supper the Lady of Honour who is in waiting preſents the Napkin, and the Ladies of the Bed-Chamber not only carve and hand the Victuals but taſte both the Meat and the Wine. The Pages carry the Diſhes and Plates, and fetch the Wine from the Beaufet which they give to the Ladies, and they to their Majeſties. During the Supper as well as at Dinner all the Gentlemen and Ladies ſtand up, ſo that here neither Princes nor Princeſſes have any Diſtinction ſhew'd them, but all Ranks are levell'd and confounded, and no body ſits down in preſence of the Sovereign.

On the Days of *Gala* the Court is extremely gay and nothing is to be ſeen but Gold and Diamonds. The Days of this kind that are celebrated with moſt Splendor are thoſe of St. *Charles* and St. *Elizabeth*, the Name-Days of the Emperor and Empreſs. The Emperor who commonly dreſſes very plain, is cover'd all over with Diamonds upon St. *Elizabeth*'s Day. And as for the Empreſs, her Apparel is commonly rich, and ſo loaded with Jewels upon St. *Charles*'s Day that ſhe can ſcarce ſtand under it. Except on theſe Days of *Gala* the Court dreſſes very plain. 'Tis true that theſe Days are very frequent, and that conſequently plain Clothes are not very much wore, for if it be a Holiday; or the Birth-Day of ſome Miniſter, or if ſome Lady of Diſtinction ſends but for a Surgeon to bleed her, 'tis enough to put the whole City in *Gala*. Theſe *Gala's* may be divided into three Claſſes; the *Court Gala* which is univerſal both for the Nobles and Plebeians; the *Grand Gala* which is kept in the City is for the Feſtival of ſome Miniſter; and the third and laſt is the *Little Gala*, which is when the Ladies are let blood. A Huſband makes a *Gala* here for his Wife, the Wife for her Huſband, the Children for their Parents, and Brothers and Siſters for one another; ſo that to be ſure two Thirds of *Vienna* are

always in *Gala*; which made a *French* Jeſter ſay, 'twould take up a great deal of Brimſtone to cure the *Auſtrians* of the *Gale* *. However, they take care not to appear in this domeſtic *Gala* before the Emperor and Empreſs, becauſe it would be reckon'd a Diſreſpect to them.

On the great Feſtival-Days the Emperor goes with a grand Retinue to St. *Stephen*'s Cathedral: He takes up one whole Side of the Coach, and the Empreſs ſits fronting him. Their Majeſties are preceded by the Chamberlains and Knights of the *Golden Fleece* on horſeback: The Pages and Footmen walk bare-headed immediately after the Coach of the Maſter of the Horſe, and their Imperial Majeſties Coach is guarded on each ſide by a File of Archers, and attended by the Coaches of the Arch-Ducheſſes and the Ladies. Then the Horſe-Guards appear with their Kettle-Drums and Trumpets, and the March is clos'd by the Pope's *Nuncio* and the Ambaſſadors with their Train which conſiſts of three magnificent Coaches and ſix Horſes each.

On *Corpus Chriſti* Day the Emperor accompanies the Holy Sacrament, when the Streets thro' which the Proceſſion paſſes are cover'd with Planks. Their Imperial Majeſties repair in the Morning with great Attendance to St. *Stephen*'s Cathedral, and after aſſiſting at Divine Service join in the Proceſſion. The Emperor is immediately follow'd by the Empreſs, who is accompany'd by all the Ladies in rich Dreſſes, which renders this one of the moſt magnificent Proceſſions in the World.

The ſame Honours and Reſpects are paid to the Empreſs Dowager as to the Empreſs Regent. She has her ſeparate Houſhold, and her own Guards. She has an Apartment in the Palace, but commonly lives in a Convent of her own founding in one of the Suburbs, and does not come to Town except on the great Feſtivals or for ſome extraordinary Function.

* This Word in *French* ſignifies a *Scab*.

tion. You know, without doubt, that the Empreſs Dowagers can never quit Mourning; their Apartments muſt be always hung with Black, and their Coaches and Liveries are of the ſame Colour: Nor can they be preſent at any Play, Ball, or Concert. In ſhort by loſing their Huſbands they muſt renounce the Pleaſures of this Life. Theſe ſevere Obligations on a Widow are fully diſcharg'd by the Empreſs Dowager. Being retir'd to a Convent where ſhe is almoſt continually proſtrate before the Altars in Prayer and Supplication, ſhe makes her Manſion a Place of Piety and Peace, and never appears in public but when Conveniency requires. This Princeſs was always an Example of the moſt uncommon Virtue. In the Life-time of her Huſband the Emperor *Joſeph*, ſhe lov'd Pleaſures and Grandeur; but when ſhe became a Widow ſhe renounc'd all, and only employ'd herſelf in Works of Piety, and in the Education of the two Arch-Ducheſſes her Daughters, whom ſhe has now the Comfort of ſeeing marry'd to two powerful Princes of the Empire *. There's not a Perſon that draws near her Imperial Majeſty but admires her eminent Qualities. I have not yet had the Honour this Journey of caſting my ſelf at her Feet, but the firſt Time I was here I had the Advantage of paying my Duty to her at *Schonborn*, where ſhe then paſs'd the Summer. I was receiv'd by her with ſuch Proofs of her Kindneſs as charm'd me, and which I ſhall always remember with Pleaſure and Reſpect. This Princeſs is the Daughter of *John-Frederic* Duke of *Brunſwic-Hanover* and of *Henrietta-Benedictine* Princeſs Palatine. After the Death of the Duke her Father who left no Son, ſhe went with the Ducheſs of *Brunſwic* to *France* where this Princeſs was very glad to retire to her Siſter the Princeſs of *Conde*. The Empreſs who was

* The Electoreſſes of *Bavaria* and *Saxony*.

then the Princeſs *Amelia*, ſpent ſome Years in *France*, where ſhe learned the Language and Politeneſs of that Nation to perfection, and in ſhort acquir'd that Merit and Virtue for which ſhe is now ſo much admir'd, and which perhaps have contributed equally with her illuſtrious Extraction to gain her poſſeſſion of the firſt Throne in Chriſtendom. The Marriage of her elder Siſter to *Renaud d'Eſte* Duke of *Modena* obliging the Ducheſs of *Brunſwic* to leave *France*, and go and ſettle at *Modena*, the Princeſs *Amelia* follow'd her alſo into *Italy*. She had no Reaſon to be ſorry for her leaving *France*, and rejecting the Addreſſes of a *French* Nobleman who had preſum'd to court her, for not long after her Arrival at *Modena* ſhe was marry'd to the King of the *Romans*, afterwards the Emperor *Joſeph*. This Empreſs is not only endow'd with the Chriſtian but all the Moral Virtues, and there are few Princeſſes of a more generous Soul, of greater Courage, or of a Genius more ſublime, more refin'd, or more adorn'd. There was a Time when ſhe might be rank'd among the moſt beautiful Princeſſes of *Europe*: ſhe ſtill retains all the Marks of it; and therewith preſerves ſuch a Majeſtic Air that whenever I behold her it revives the profound Veneration I have for her ſacred Perſon.

The Emperor *Charles* VI. is of a middling Stature, and in good Plight of Body: He is of a ſwarthy hale Complexion, has a briſk Eye, and thick Lips, for which laſt his Family in general have been remarkable. This Monarch is the ſecond Son of the Emperor *Leopold* by *Eleonora* of *Newbourg*, and the fifteenth Emperor* of his Family. Being deſign'd when a Minor for Succeſſor to *Charles* II. King of *Spain*, he had a grave Education ſuitable to the People whom he was one Day to govern. This made

* I conform to the Opinion of almoſt all the Hiſtorians, who do not place *Frederic* the Fair in the Liſt of the Emperors.

made him contract an Air of Serioufneſs, which, to thoſe who have not the Honour of Acceſs to him, ſavours of Severity; yet he is affable and very humane. He hears thoſe with Attention that ſpeak to him, and his Anſwers are full of Good-nature. When he attain'd to an Age hardly ripe enough for the Crown of *Spain*, he met with various Fortune in that Kingdom; but he ſupported himſelf in every Event with an heroic Magnanimity, being always ſubmiſſive to the Will of that Providence which he knew was the Maſter of the Fortune of Kings. The Adverſitys with which it pleas'd God to try his Patience by the Siege of *Barcelona* which he carry'd on in Perſon, and by the Loſs of the Battle of *Villa Vicioſa*, only ſerv'd to confirm his Conſtancy, and his natural Integrity, a Principle which renders him even more venerable than the Splendor of his Crowns and the vaſt Extent of his Power. Heaven, which always rewards Virtue, has granted this Monarch one of the beſt and moſt fortunate Reigns that any Emperor has had ſince *Germany* has been the Seat of Empire. He wants nothing to crown his Happineſs but a Male Heir, which is ſo much the Deſire of the People, as well as of the Emperor and the moſt virtuous Empreſs the World ever ſaw, that God grant he may have one.

This Princeſs is deſcended from the auguſt Houſe of *Brunſwic*, to which *Europe* is at this Time oblig'd for two Empreſſes *, one King †, and a Queen ‖. She is the Daughter of *Lewis Rodolph* Duke of *Brunſwic-Blankenbourg* ** by *Chriſtiana-Louiſa* Princeſs of *Oetingen*, of whom I gave you

* The Empreſs Regent and the Empreſs Dowager.
† The King of *Great Britain*.
‖ The Queen of *Pruſſia*.
** The preſent Duke Regent of *Brunſwic-Lunenbourg-Wolfenbuttle*.

an Account in my Letter from *Blankenbourg*. The Character of this auguſt Princeſs for her Affability and Goodneſs is ſo well known in the World that 'tis needleſs to ſpeak of it here. You know likewiſe how beautiful and handſome ſhe was when ſhe was marry'd to the Emperor. And notwithſtanding the Pimples in her Face and her preſent Corpulency ſhe may ſtill be reckon'd in the number of the beautiful Princeſſes. Such an Air of Modeſty, Mildneſs, and Majeſty, accompanies every thing ſhe does, as inſpires thoſe that approach her with equal Courage and Reſpect. Her Duty is her Law, and her principal Care is to pleaſe the Emperor whoſe Wiſdom ſhe knows to be ſufficient to govern his Dominions, and to him ſhe therefore leaves all Affairs. Indeed ſhe is very earneſt with him to get Favours for thoſe who petition her, which ſhe thinks a Happineſs to obtain, and ſhe beſtows them in ſuch manner as is very affecting to the Receivers. This Princeſs is charitable, generous, and magnificent. She maintains her Dignity without Conceit, and ſupports her ſolid Piety without Oſtentation. She was educated in the *Lutheran* Religion, but abjur'd it at *Bamberg* when ſhe came thither in her Way to be marry'd to the Emperor, then King of *Spain*, and is now a good Catholic, yet without any Hatred to the Proteſtants; being convinc'd that the Love of one's Neighbour is one of the Duties which God moſt ſtrictly enjoins upon Mankind, and that Charitableneſs and good Examples are the beſt Means to reconcile thoſe to the Church who are ſeparated from it.

In the ſame ſublime Sentiments of Virtue does the Empreſs educate the Archducheſſes her Daughters, and thoſe young Princeſſes are like to make worthy Proficients. The eldeſt Archducheſs *Mary Thereſa* is brought up in the agreeable Proſpect of being one day Miſtreſs of the vaſt Dominions poſ-

ſeſſed

ſeſſed by the Emperor †. This young Princeſs has very much of the Air of the Empreſs her Mother; and if Heaven deſigns her for the Sovereignty of the Empire, God grant ſhe may alſo reſemble her in her Virtues!

The Emperor has three Siſters. The eldeſt is the Archduchеſs *Mary Elizabeth* Governeſs of the *(Auſtrian) Netherlands*; the ſecond is *Mary Anne* Queen of *Portugal*; and the third is the Archduchеſs *Mary Magdalen*, who 'tis ſaid is intended to be Governeſs of *Tirol*. The intire Auguſt Houſe of *Auſtria* conſiſts at preſent of the ſacred Perſon of the Emperor and of eight Princeſſes *, of whom three are married; and God grant it may be augmented by the Birth of a Prince; for without ſetting up here for a zealous Subject, I don't think that the Houſes of *Auſtria* and *Bourbon* ought ever to be extinct, both of them having made the Fortunes of an infinite Number of Gentlemen.

The Emperor's ordinary Paſtime (when he has a Deſire to unbend his Mind from Affairs of State, to which he applies with all the Earneſtneſs of a Monarch that loves his People) is Hunting, or Shooting at a Mark; and the Empreſs is generally a Sharer in his Diverſions. His Imperial Majeſty goes ſometimes alſo to the Riding-Houſe, where he exerciſes himſelf in Riding: At other times Muſic is his Amuſement, which the Monarch not only performs by Book, but is alſo a Compoſer; and ſome Years ago an Opera was acted here of his compoſing. All the Actors as well as the Dancers and the Muſicians of the Orcheſtre were Perſons of Quality. The Emperor himſelf made one, and the two eldeſt Archduchеſſes his Daughters danced. The Spectators were the Empreſs Regent and the Empreſs Dowager, and every Actor had the Liberty

† *Feb.* 1. 1736. ſhe was marry'd to the Duke of *Lorrain*.

* There are but ſeven Archduchеſſes ſince 1730; the Emperor's third Daughter being dead.

berty of carrying two of his Kindred or intimate Friends.

Tho' their Imperial Majeſties are very fond of Muſic they have ſeldom more than two Operas in a Year, *viz.* on the Days of St. *Charles* and St. *Elizabeth*, and ſometimes the ſame Operas are play'd again during the Carnival. At this time which is devoted to Mirth, there is a Ball at Court, and on the Fleſh-days there is commonly a great Maſquerade repreſenting a Country-Wedding. In the Palace there is a very magnificent Theatre, which indeed is almoſt the only thing there that is worth ſeeing, for the Imperial Palace is ſo wretched a Manſion that few Monarchs are lodged worſe than the Emperor. The Furniture too is old-faſhion'd and not very rich, which is ſomewhat unaccountable, becauſe the Wardrobes are full of coſtly Pieces of Tapeſtry, ſtately Pictures, and other fine Goods which probably they are reſtrained from making uſe of by the *Etiquette*. The Emperor's Pleaſure-Houſes are no better than his Palace in the City. The Caſtle of the *Favorita* which is in one of the Suburbs, is a great Building full of Turnings and Windings like the Street which it looks into, and has more of the Appearance of a great Convent of *Capuchin* Fryars than of the Dwelling of a Prince who is the Head of ſo many Sovereigns. The Gardens are as mean as the Houſe, and only conſiderable for their Extent. *Laxembourg* is ſtill very much inferior to the *Favorita*; but the Court is there no more than a Month or ſix Weeks, during the Hunting of the Heron. The Miniſters that are obliged to attend the Emperor thither have Houſes there, which though not very grand, are commodious. When a Perſon goes to *Laxembourg* to pay a Viſit to the Court he is under a Neceſſity of returning to *Vienna* for a Bed, which is a very great Inconveniency.

The

The Emperor *Joſeph* had begun a very fine Houſe at *Schonborn* about a League from *Vienna*, but did not live to finiſh it; and the Empreſs *Amelia* to whom the Emperor gave it, inſtead of carrying on the Works which her Husband had begun, lets it run to ruin; which is great pity, for if that Building had been finiſh'd the Emperor wou'd not have had a *Verſailles*, but he wou'd at leaſt have had a Manſion-Houſe ſuitable to his Dignity. 'Tis ſaid that a new Palace is going to be built for the Emperor; which, if true, 'twere to be wiſh'd that better Architects may be employ'd in it than thoſe who have had the Direction of the new Stables and of St. *Charles*'s Church, which are Buildings lately erected with very great Expence, but without any Taſte. The Stables are a Range of Buildings of a vaſt Length, divided into ſeven Pavilions which appear at firſt ſight to be ſo many different Houſes. The middlemoſt Pavilion which is deſign'd to lodge the Maſter of the Horſe is much higher than the other ſix, which ſink gradually on the two ſides. Nor are the inner Rooms better contriv'd; for the Horſes ſtand all in one Row, and the Stable is ſo narrow withal, that one is every minute in danger from the Horſes Heels; which is purely owing to the Indiſcretion of the Architect, who having ground enough and to ſpare might for the ſame Expence have made ſomething grand and noble.

Whether the ſame Architect that built the Stables had the Direction likewiſe of St. *Charles*'s Church, is what I know not; but if they are two different Men their Head-pieces are very much alike. This Church would perhaps have been admir'd in the Days of the *Goths*, but in ſo refined an Age as the preſent, one cannot look on it without being ſorry for the Sums of Money laid out in it.

This bad Taſte as to Buildings prevails too much at *Vienna*, not but that there are Hotels and even Pa-

Palaces in which the Rules of Architecture are obſerv'd, but then the Builders are got into ſuch a way of ornamenting and charging their Houſes with Sculpture as is altogether contrary to the noble Simplicity of the ancient Architecture. The Palace of Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy* is ſtately, but ſituate in a narrow Street with a very little Court before it. The Stair-caſe is very well contriv'd were it not too much confin'd. The Apartments of the firſt Story are as well laid out as the Ground wou'd admit of. We enter firſt into a ſpacious Salon adorn'd with great Pictures repreſenting the chief Victories of Prince *Eugene* over the *French* and the *Turks*. In the two Rooms next to this are very rich Hangings wherein the Maker *Devos* at *Bruſſels* has very correctly delineated the whole Military Science. The Bed-chamber beyond that has a Set of Furniture of green Velvet richly embroider'd with Gold and Silk. In the ſame Room there is a Luſtre of Rock Cryſtal which is ſaid to have coſt 40,000 Florins. All the other Furniture is extraordinary magnificent, and wou'd be cry'd up at *Paris* it ſelf, where it muſt be allow'd a Taſte for fine Furniture prevails more than any where.

The Palace of *Lichtenſtein* is bigger than that of *Savoy*, and not leſs magnificent. 'Tis worth ſeeing were it only for its Paintings. I paſs over the Hotels of *Schwartzenberg*, *Daun*, *Diedrichſtein*, *Harrach*, and ſeveral other noble Edifices, leſt my Letter ſhou'd ſwell into a Volume.

The Palaces of the Suburbs are infinitely more grand than thoſe of the City, and they have both Court-yards and Gardens. The moſt noble are the Palaces of *Trautſheim*, *Rofrano*, *Schwartzenberg*, *Altheim*, and *Eugene* of *Savoy*. This laſt eſpecially is a ſuperb Structure with magnificent Gardens, a fine Orangery, and a Menagery ſtor'd with the moſt uncommon Creatures that the four Parts of the

the World can furniſh. 'Tis in this fine great Houſe that Prince *Eugene* paſſes the beautiful Seaſon of the Year. There is not ſo fine a Sight as an Aſſembly at this Prince's Houſe, for not only the outer Court, in which there's a fine Piece of Water, but the Gardens are illuminated by an infinite Number of Lanthorns made in form of a Bowl of extraordinary white Glaſs, which caſt a very great Light and make a glorious appearance. The Aſſemblies at this Prince's Houſe are always very numerous, for his Birth, Employments and Intereſt, draw a great Court to him.

Prince *Eugene* is of a middling Stature, and well made. His Air is extremely ſerious, and his Deportment grave and reſerv'd; but notwithſtanding that Reſervedneſs he is a hearty Friend to his Adherents. He is a thorough Judge of Merit, and loves to diſtinguiſh it. He is perfectly genteel and civil, very polite to the Ladies, reſpectful and ſubmiſſive to his Lord and Maſter, but without Flattery or Servility. He is generous and noble in every thing excepting his Apparel. He is an Enemy to Oſtentation, Ceremonies, and Conſtraint. In his youthful Days he lov'd Pleaſures, but he abandon'd them as ſoon as he was animated with a Thirſt for Glory. He was born in *France*, but left that Kingdom in 1683, out of diſguſt that he was no more taken notice of, and came to *Vienna* juſt before the *Turks* laid ſiege to it. He made the Campaign as a Volunteer, and diſtinguiſh'd himſelf in ſuch a manner that the Emperor *Leopold* gave him in *December* following that Regiment of Dragoons which ſtill goes by his Name. When the Siege of *Vienna* was rais'd, he ſerv'd in *Hungary* under Duke *Charles* of *Lorrain*, and *Maximilian Emanuel* Elector of *Bavaria*. The firſt time that he obtain'd the Command of the Imperial Army was in 1697, when he began with the Victory at *Zenta* whereby 22,000 *Turks* loſt their Lives; a Loſs which they could not re-

cover

tover, and which put them upon ſuing for the Peace that was granted to them at *Carlowitz* in 1699. The Prince afterwards commanded in *Italy*, *Germany*, *Flanders*, and laſtly in *Hungary*; and wherever he went Conqueſt attended him. To give you a Detail of his Atchievements would be to anticipate the Hiſtory which is to immortalize them, and to which you will not take it ill if I refer you. As to the Dignities and great Employments of this Prince, he is Chief Counſellor of the Council of Conferences; Preſident of the Aulic Council of War; Commander in Chief or Lieutenant-General of the Armies of the Emperor and Empire; his Imperial Majeſty's Vicar-General in *Italy*; Colonel of a Regiment of Dragoons; and Knight of the Golden Fleece. All his Employments may be worth about 300,000 Florins a year to him. Beſides this, he has a conſiderable Eſtate in *Hungary* and in the Neighbourhood of *Vienna*; which brings him in about 100,000 Florins *per Ann.* more. He holds thoſe Lands by the Emperor's Bounty who gave them to him as a Reward for his important Services.*

The

* This great General who was born the 8th of *October* 1663, O. S. dy'd on the 10th of *April* 1736, O. S. ſo ſuddenly, that when his Gentleman went that Morning, as uſual, into his Chamber to awake him, he was found dead in his Bed. He had been the day before very gay with Company whom he entertain'd at Dinner, and made not the leaſt Complaint of any Ailment, tho' he had for ſome time before been ſo indiſpos'd that he did not venture abroad. 'Tis ſuppoſed that he was choak'd by an immoderate Defluxion of Rheum with which he was now and then troubled. His ſudden Death caſt the City and Court of *Vienna* into ſuch a Conſternation as did prodigious Honour to his immortal Memory. On the 15th, after having lain three days in State, he was interr'd in the Tomb of his Nephew *Emanuel* Prince of *Savoy*, (which the Princeſs of *Savoy* Counteſs of *Soiſſons* caus'd to be erected in the Metropolitan Church of St. *Stephen*) with all the Military Honours, and all the Magnificence due to his illuſtrious Birth, and to thoſe important

The Marſhal Count *Guido Staremberg* is one of thoſe Gentlemen alſo who deſerve particular reſpect for their Virtue. He is deſcended of a Family which has given great Generals and wiſe Miniſters to the Emperors of the *Auſtrian* Family, and has ſupported the glory of his Anceſtors in a ſignal manner; *Hungary*, *Italy*, and *Spain*, have been Witneſſes of his Bravery and conſummate Wiſdom in the Art of commanding Armies, and have admir'd him the more becauſe they ſaw him always gaining Victories with Armies ill paid, deſtitute of all Neceſſaries, and very much inferior to his Enemies. This General enter'd very young into the Service in quality of an Enſign, and advanc'd himſelf by degrees. He was made Lieutenant-Colonel a little before the *Turks* Undertaking againſt *Vienna*, and while it was beſieg'd, ſerv'd as Adjutant to his Couſin *Erneſt-Rudiger* Count *de Staremberg*, the Defender of *Vienna*. This Count *Guido*, after having been a few years in the Service, was preferr'd to the Regiment of Foot of which he is ſtill Colonel. When

portant Services which he perform'd to the Auguſt Houſe of *Auſtria* during the Reigns of three ſucceſſive Emperors. A Will was found among his Papers, whereby he declar'd the late Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy* his Nephew who dy'd the year before at *Manheim* his univerſal Heir. But after that time a Codicil was made, tho' never ſign'd by Prince *Eugene*, declaring for his Heir his Niece *Louiſa de Soiſſons* of *Carignan* (who was born *December* 16, 1686.) then at a *Nunnery* in *France*. The Prince left behind him a numerous and curious Library of Books, many of which he bought when at *London* of *Chriſtopher Bateman* in *Pater-noſter Row*, beſides a fine Cabinet of Medals and other Curioſities. The Emperor has bought his Library of his Niece for 20000 Florins.

Since the Prince's Death the Count *de Konigſeg* Vice-Preſident of the Council of War, has the chief Direction of Military Affairs at this Court, and ſigns all Diſpatches and Commiſſions which that Prince ſign'd as firſt Preſident of the ſaid Council, for thirty-three years. His Regiment of Dragoons is given to Prince *Charles* of *Lorrain*, but the Honours he held as General in Chief of the Emperor's Forces, and his Imperial Majeſty's Vicar-General in *Italy*, are like to continue vacant by reaſon of the Peace.

When he was very young he was made Great Commander of the *Teutonic* Order. I do not mention his Exploits to you, becauſe they are ſo much celebrated by Fame that you cannot but know them. This General tho' very much advanc'd in years, retains all his juvenile Ardor, and wou'd ſtill be very capable of commanding.

Having mention'd two of the Emperor's greateſt Generals you will not be ſorry, I fancy, if I ſhou'd give you ſome Account alſo of his chief Miniſters. They are five in Number, and are call'd *Counſellors of the Conferences*. Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy* is the firſt Counſellor, but without the Title of Prime Miniſter, that being a Dignity not known at the Imperial Court.

The Count *Lewis de Zinzendorf*, Chancellor of the Court, and Knight of the *Golden Fleece*, is the ſecond Counſellor of the Conference. He is a Nobleman deſcended of a Family which has been for a long time eminent in *Auſtria*. His Mother was a Princeſs of *Holſtein* who married to her ſecond Huſband the Marſhal Count *de Rabutin* Governor of *Tranſylvania*, but dy'd a few years ago in a very advanc'd Age. I had the honour to know her the laſt time I was here; her Houſe being the Rendezvous of all People of Rank. Count *Zinzendorf* was in the Miniſtry in the Reign of *Leopold*. He was that Emperor's Miniſter Plenipotentiary in *France*, while the Marſhal *de Villars* was at *Vienna* with the ſame Character from *Lewis* XIV. At the Death of the Emperor *Joſeph*, the Count *de Zinzendorf* was that Prince's Ambaſſador to the States-General, in which Character he was confirmed by the Empreſs *Eleonora* who was Regent during the Abſence of King *Charles*. He repaired from the *Hague* to *Frankfort* to aſſiſt at the Coronation of *Charles* VI. and officiated at the Ceremony as Vicar to the Great Treaſurer of the Empire, a Dignity which is Hereditary in his Family.

At

At the Congreſs of *Utrecht* which was open'd not long after, the Count *de Zinzendorf* aſſiſted as the Emperor's firſt Ambaſſador. He afterwards went to the unſucceſsful Congreſs of *Soiſſons*, and from thence to *Verſailles*, where he ſucceeded ſo well with the Cardinal *de Fleury* that he kept him tight in thoſe pacific Sentiments which the Enemies of his Tranquillity, if not of his Glory, aim'd to make him give up. The Count is now return'd hither, and almoſt the only Man that acts in the Province of foreign Affairs. His Intereſt is very great, for beſides the Eſteem which the Emperor has for his Perſon and Services, he is related to all the moſt diſtinguiſhed Perſons at Court, and ſtrictly attached to the Intereſt of Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy*, of whoſe Integrity and diſintereſted Zeal for the Emperor he is very ſenſible. The Count *de Zinzendorf* is pretty tall and has a happy engaging Aſpect. His Deportment is noble. He is pretty reſerved but civil. He is very polite to Strangers and his Houſe is open to them. He keeps the nobleſt and moſt elegant Table at *Vienna*. He is magnificent in every thing he does, and all his Actions ſavour of the Man of Quality. He is Father of a numerous Family. The ſecond of his Sons is a Cardinal and Biſhop in *Hungary* *. Another is Knight of *Malta*, and Lieutenant-Colonel. As theſe are the two with whom I am beſt acquainted, ſo they are the only ones I ſhall mention. I know not whether 'tis poſſible for a Man to be more ſprightly than they both are. The Chevalier has more Mettle and Life than a *Gaſcon*: He is very blunt in his witty Sallies, but the variety of them pleaſes, and their novelty and juſtneſs are ſurprizing.

The Count *Gundacker de Staremberg*, Preſident of the Chamber of Finances, and Knight of the

* He is now Biſhop of *Breſlaw*, a Dignity which gives him a diſtinguiſh'd Rank in this Duchy.

Golden Fleece, is the third Counſellor of the Conferences. His Integrity is very much cry'd up, and he has manag'd the Finances in ſuch a manner as to guard againſt the Public Hatred.

The Count *de Schonborn*, Biſhop of *Bamberg* and *Wurtzbourg*, Vice-Chancellor of the Empire, is the fourth Counſellor of the Conferences *. You know, Sir, that the *Schonborn* Family has given us ſeveral worthy Gentlemen; but I may venture to ſay, with all due Regard to the Memory of thoſe great Men, and without flattering the Vice-Chancellor, that of all the Family he has the greateſt Capacity for Buſineſs, the moſt generous Temper, and the moſt engaging and moſt civil Behaviour. As this Prelate has not his Equal at *Vienna* for Grandeur and Riches, ſo he has not his Fellow for Magnificence. The Emperor has a ſingular Eſteem for him. The Vice-Chancellor has the Chancery of the Empire under him, and no body above him but the Emperor, and the Elector of *Mentz*, who is the Great Chancellor of the Empire.

The Count *de Konigſeck*, Vice-Preſident of the Aulic Council of War, is the fifth Counſellor of the Conferences. This Nobleman, whoſe Extraction is from a Family of Diſtinction in the Empire, is one of the talleſt and handſomeſt Men at Court: He is the Emperor's Ambaſſador Extraordinary at the Court of *Spain*. His Family has for a long time paſt been attach'd to the Houſe of *Auſtria*. He ſtudy'd at *Beſançon*, and was deſign'd for the Church; but he quitted the Band, took to Arms, and

* The Count *de Metſch*, Vice-Preſident of the Aulic-Council of the Empire, ſucceeded him in the Office of Vice-Chancellor; and the Count *Aloyſius-Thomas Raimond* of *Harrach-Rohran*, heretofore Viceroy of *Naples*, hereditary Maſter of the Horſe of Upper and Lower *Auſtria*, Marſhal of the States of the Country, Knight of the Golden Fleece, is appointed Counſellor of the Conferences in the room of the Count *de Schonborn*.

and enter'd into the Service of the Emperor *Leopold*; in which he had not been many Years before he had a Regiment of Foot, and the Emperor *Joſeph* made him his Chamberlain. He alſo gave him the Government of *Mantua*, from whence he was recall'd by *Charles* VI. and ſent to take Poſſeſſion of the *Netherlands* in the Name of the Emperor, to whom they were evacuated for that purpoſe by the Maritime Powers. The Count *de Konigſeck*, during his Adminiſtration of the *Netherlands*, concluded the Barrier Treaty with the States-General. At *Bruſſels* he marry'd Madamoiſelle *de Lanoi la Motterie*, a young Lady of a good Family, and diſtinguiſh'd Merit. When he left the *Netherlands* he went Ambaſſador from the Emperor to the Court of *France*, where he gain'd great Eſteem, eſpecially from the Duke of *Orleans*, the Regent; a Prince who was an excellent Judge of Merit, and very ſparing of his Applauſe. After three Years ſtay at *Paris*, the Count return'd to *Vienna*. He attended the Archdutcheſs, Wife to the Electoral Prince of *Saxony*, in quality of Steward, to *Dreſden*; and at his return went to the Government of *Tranſilvania*. But the Emperor recall'd him from this Poſt and has ſent him his Ambaſſador Extraordinary to *Spain*; where the Count is as much eſteem'd as he was at *Paris*. 'Tis ſaid that he is in entire Favour with their Catholic Majeſties; nevertheleſs he makes ſuch earneſt Application to be recall'd, that 'tis ſaid he will obtain his Requeſt, and that his Nephew *, who is the Emperor's Miniſter Plenipotentiary to the States-General, is already nominated to relieve him †.

* The Count *de Konigſeck Erps*. He actually went to *Spain*, with a deſign to relieve his Uncle; but as the Face of Affairs is alter'd at this Court, they are both return'd. The Count *de Konigſeck-Erps* is at *Bruſſels* Counſellor of State of *Brabant*.

† The Count *de Conigſeck* is return'd home from his Embaſſy to *Spain*. He actually officiates as Vice-Preſident of the Aulic

In the Council of Conferences the moſt important Affairs of the Empire are taken into Conſideration, and the Emperor is always preſent.

Beſides the five Miniſters whom I have now mention'd to you, there are ſeveral others whoſe Intereſt is more circumſcrib'd. Every Kingdom ſubject to the Emperor has its Miniſter and particular Chancery.

Count *Badiani* directs the Affairs of *Hungary*, in quality of its Vice-Chancellor.

The Affairs of *Bohemia* are in the Province of Count *Kinſki*, the Chancellor of that Kingdom, who has a Vice-Chancellor under him, with a great many Aſſeſſors and Counſellors.

The Council of *Spain* conſiſts of a Preſident, Vice-Preſident, and Counſellors. Its Authority extends over all the Kingdoms that were formerly ſubject to *Spain*, but yielded to the Emperor by the Peace. The Count *de Monte-Santo*, a Grandee of *Spain*, Brother to the Count *de Cinfuentes*, Conſtable of *Caſtile*, is Preſident of this Council ‖; in which Office he ſucceeded the Archbiſhop of *Valentia*, who quitted his See to follow the Emperor whom he had acknowledg'd for his Sovereign in *Spain*.

Of all the Tribunals at *Vienna* the *Aulic Council* is the moſt venerable; becauſe 'tis the Parliament of the Empire. It is compos'd of a Preſident, *viz.* the

Aulic Council of War, and as Privy-Counſellor of the Conferences. He is Lieutenant-General of the Emperor's Armies, Colonel of a Regiment of Foot; and is lately created a Knight of the Golden Fleece. The Count *de Mercy* being kill'd at the Battle of *Parma*, the 29th of *June*, 1734, the Emperor ſent the Count *de Konigſeck* to *Italy*, and gave him the Command of his Army, which was in a very ſhatter'd Condition, and which the Count *de Konigſeck* ſet to rights again, in ſuch a manner as to command Reſpect even from his Enemies.

‖ His Name and Title is *Joſeph de Silva y Meneſes*, Marqueſs *de Villaſor*, Count *de Monte-Santo*.

the Count *de Wurmbrandt*; a Vice-Preſident, who is the Count *de Metſch*; and of eighteen Counſellors, among whom there muſt be ſix Proteſtants, and of theſe one muſt be a *Calviniſt*. This Tribunal judges of all Civil Cauſes between the Princes and private Men of the Empire. Its Authority terminates with the Emperor's Life; and 'tis on this account only that the ſupreme Tribunal of *Wetzlar*, which ſubſiſts even during the Vacancy of the Imperial Throne, challenges Precedence of the Aulic Council. 'Tis a Miſtake to think, as many Foreigners do, that the Aulic Council takes Cognizance of Affairs of State; for its ſole Buſineſs is to do Juſtice: It regiſters no Edict unleſs it be its own Sentences *; and is much more limited than the Parliaments of *France*, which have at leaſt the Privilege of loſing Time in Remonſtrances.

I perceive too that I am in a fair way to make you loſe a great deal, if I don't put an end to my Legend; which therefore I now do, and refer the reſt of the Remarks that I have to entertain you with to another Poſt.

I kiſs your Hand, and am, &c.

* They are barely *Opinions*, and do not paſs into Decrees till they are approved by the Emperor.

LETTER XIII.

SIR, *Vienna, Decem.* 10. 1729.

THERE are ſome other Articles which I cannot but add to thoſe I have already given you from *Vienna*. The Police of this City is adminiſter'd by a Stadtholder. The Perſon that now fills that Poſt is the Count *de Kehvenhuller*; who is alſo a Miniſter of State, and Knight of the Golden Fleece. His Functions are the ſame with thoſe of the Lieutenant of the Police at *Paris*, and nothing makes the Difference but the Title; only it muſt be obſerv'd that the Stadtholder is always a Perſon of noble Extraction, and a Gentleman of the Army, whereas the Lieutenant of the Police at *Paris* is often of mean Extraction, but always a Gentleman of the long Robe.

The Governour of *Vienna* has ſeldom any other Title than *Colonel of the City*. The preſent Governour is the Marſhal Count *de Daun*, the ſame that defended *Turin*, who was ſix Years Viceroy of *Naples*, ſix Months Governour of the *Netherlands*, and afterwards four Years Governour of *Milan* *. His Lieutenant-Colonel, who is the Count *Maximilian de Staremberg*, Lieutenant-General of the Emperor's Forces, and Colonel of a Regiment of Foot, commands in his Abſence, and has the Direction

* When he return'd to *Vienna*, after the *French* and *Savoyards* had taken *Milan* in 1733, ſeveral Articles of Complaint were exhibited againſt him; but he made ſo full a Defence againſt the Impeachment, that the Emperor has the ſame Confidence in him as before.

rection of the Fortifications, the Arſenal, and the Gariſon. This Gariſon conſiſts of a Regiment of Foot, compos'd of veteran Soldiers, or the Burghers and Artificers of *Vienna*, from whence this Regiment never ſtirs. The Employments in this Corps are very lucrative; but as they don't lie in the Road to the Temple of Honour, they are not much ſolicited by Perſons of any conſiderable Extraction. Yet this Regiment, as little eſteem'd as it is, perform'd very good Services during the Siege of *Vienna* by *Kara Muſtapha*, Grand Vizier to *Mahomet* IV. It acted then under *Erneſt-Rudiger* Count *de Staremberg*, who was Commandant in the City; and both the General and his Gariſon acquir'd very great Glory by the Reſiſtance which they made. But perhaps with all their Bravery they cou'd not have prevented the Place from being taken, had it not been for the Avarice of the Grand Vizier who hop'd to be Maſter himſelf of the vaſt Treaſures that he knew were in the City, and was therefore againſt ſtorming the Town, for fear leſt if it were carry'd by that means, the Soldiers wou'd have ſhar'd the Plunder.

The Siege of *Vienna* being foreign to my purpoſe, I ſhall ſay nothing of it. You know that it was raiſed by the Aſſiſtance that was brought to it by the brave *John Sobieſki* King of *Poland*; who defeated the *Turks* on the 12th of *September*, 1683, and return'd home laden with Glory and Booty, having made himſelf Maſter of all the Grand Vizier's Equipage. Upon this occaſion he ſaid a pleaſant thing in a Letter which he wrote to the Queen his Wife, who had not a very implicit Faith in the Maxims of *Seneca* on the Contempt of Riches; 'You 'ſhan't ſay when I come home, as the *Tartary* 'Women do to their Huſbands when they return 'from the Army without Booty, *You are not a Man* '*for me, becauſe you come empty-handed*; for the

'Grand Vizier has made me ſole Heir of all he had.'

You need not be told that this was the ſecond time the *Turks* were forc'd to raiſe the Siege of *Vienna*; for *Soliman* the Sultan beſieg'd it in the Reign of *Charles* V. but with no better Succeſs than *Kara Muſtapha*. 'Tis true that the Diſappointment he met with was not ſo fatal in its Conſequence to the Sultan as the other was to the Vizier of *Mahomet* IV. who was ſtrangled at *Belgrade* when *Mahomet* was there: And the Head of this Miniſter is ſtill to be ſeen in the Arſenal at *Vienna*. The Tranſlation of this *Turkiſh* Relique hither from *Belgrade* was pretty extraordinary. Some Years after *Kara Muſtapha* had been ſtrangled, when the *Germans* took *Belgrade*, the Soldiers being inform'd where the Grand Vizier was bury'd, open'd his Tomb in hopes of Treaſure, but found nothing except the Body in its Shirt, on which there were ſeveral *Arabic* Characters, and an Alcoran. The Governour being told of it, remember'd that this very Grand Vizier, when he laid Siege to *Raab*, which he was oblig'd to raiſe, ſaid, That if he took the Town he wou'd have the Head of its Biſhop cut off, who was then the Count *Leopold de Collonitz*, and ſend it to the Sultan, to be reveng'd of that Prelate for taking Money out of the Convents, and encouraging the Gariſon therewith to make a vigorous Reſiſtance. The Governour of *Belgrade* remembring, I ſay, the Menaces of the Grand Vizier, thought it wou'd be a very agreeable Preſent to the Count *de Collonitz*, now a Cardinal*, to ſend him the Vizier's Head and Body too, together with the Shirt and Alcoran; and he put up the whole very neatly in a Cryſtal Shrine, adorn'd with Silver Plates, and ſent it accordingly to his Eminence; who not thinking this odd Preſent a proper Relique to be depoſited in his Chapel, gave it to the Arſenal here at *Vienna*.

* He was Uncle to the Cardinal *Collonitz* ABp of *Vienna*.

Vienna, where I have both ſeen the Muſſulman and felt him. I wou'd fain have pluck'd ſome of the Hairs of his Muſtachio, but the Guardian of the precious Treaſure watch'd my Fingers too narrowly. They ſay that a piece of the Halter by which a Man hangs himſelf is lucky, and why mayn't there be the ſame Virtue in the Muſtachio of the Grand Vizier? Be it ſo or not, 'twill always deſerve an honourable Station in ſome Cabinet of Rarities.

Since the Siege of *Vienna* this City is much inlarg'd. Its Fortifications are ſo augmented too that if the *Turks* ſhou'd ever be prompted by their ill Fate to beſiege it again, they wou'd find a ſtouter Reſiſtance, and a greater number of their Muſtachios ſindged than they imagine.

The Emperor has lately given new Luſtre to his Capital, by prevailing with Pope *Benedict* XIII. to erect it into an Archbiſhoprick. Several Biſhops, particularly the Archbiſhop of *Paſſaw*, have diſmember'd their Dioceſes to aggrandiſe its Juriſdiction. The Cardinal *de Collonitz* is the Perſon who at preſent enjoys this Dignity, which gives him the Character and Rank of a Prince.

The *Roman* Catholic is the only Religion exercis'd in *Vienna*, and in all *Auſtria*; but the Miniſters of the Proteſtant Crown'd Heads have the Liberty here, as well as elſewhere, of keeping a Chapel. When the holy Sacrament or the Viaticum is carry'd to any ſick Perſon, 'tis always attended by Guards who oblige all People that meet it to kneel. I have ſeen the Emperor, when the Viaticum was paſſing by, alight out of his Coach and accompany it to Church. This Prince, and indeed all thoſe of his Family, always paid a very great Devotion to the holy Sacrament of the Altar. Of this *Philip* IV. King of *Spain* gave a very edifying Proof; for this Monarch going the very day that the King his Father dy'd, from the Palace of *Madrid* to the Monaſtery of St. *Jeronimo del Paſſo* in a cloſe Coach, that he might

be

be *incog.* alighted out of it to accompany the Viaticum which they were carrying to a ſick Man; whereupon the Conde Duke *d'Olivarez* told him, That the King his Father was ſo lately dead that he ought not to have been ſeen in public. *My Lord*, ſaid the King, *this Cuſtom cannot excuſe me from paying that Worſhip to God which I owe him.*

It may be ſaid of the auguſt Houſe of *Auſtria*, That as few Princes equal them in Piety, ſo there are few that equal them in Birth. There may be Families that have been longer grac'd with the Diadem; but of theſe there are very few that have ſuch great Alliances. There is no King, and not many Sovereign Princes but what are related to them; and there are very few Kingdoms to which the Houſe of *Auſtria* has not given Queens. 'Tis now 300 Years that it has been Miſtreſs of the Empire; and ſince *Albert* II, it has given thirteen Emperors to *Europe* ſucceſſively. One of the Princeſſes of *Auſtria* had ſo many great Relations that I cannot help mentioning her. This was the Empreſs *Mary*, Wife to the Emperor *Maximilian*, Son to *Ferdinand* I. This Princeſs was Siſter to *Philip* II. King of *Spain*, and the Daughter, the Wife, the Daughter-in-law, and the Mother of five Emperors; the Grand-daughter, the Daughter, the Siſter, and the Aunt of four Kings of *Spain*; and the Mother-in-law of two Kings, *viz. Charles* IX. King of *France*, and *Philip* II. King of *Spain*. A modern Author ſays that the Origin and Kindred of this Princeſs infinitely ſurpaſſed thoſe of *Agrippina*, who, according to the Report of *Tacitus*, was the Daughter of *Germanicus*, the Siſter of *Caligula*, the Wife of *Claudius*, and the Mother of *Nero*. But when I conſider how perfect a Maſter you are, both of Hiſtory and Genealogy, I ought to beg your Pardon for my Impertinence in troubling you with theſe Inſtances.

What

What remains for me now, is to communicate ſome Remarks to you which I have made upon the *Auſtrians* in general. I ſhall begin with the Women, whom I ſhall paint to you, as *Burrhus* ſays, with the Freedom of a Soldier, who is not the beſt Limner.

The Women here, as in all other Countries, are either handſome or ugly. In general they are rather handſome than pretty, for they are dull Beauties. They are all tall and well ſhap'd; they walk well, but when they curt'ſy, do it in ſuch an aukward manner, that one wou'd think their Backs were in danger of breaking. In their Dreſs they affect Finery rather than a good Fancy. Two or three excepted, there's none that lay on the Red, much leſs the White, and Patches are very little worn; in a word, they have nothing about them that denotes Coquettry. As to their Humour, they are reckon'd frank, tho' not eaſily made familiar; they are naturally vain, and like all our *German* Women, pretty reſerv'd, and not ſo fond of Gallantry as they are of Gaming, Luxury, and Magnificence. Such is their Indolence that they concern themſelves no more about their Houſhold Affairs than if they were Strangers. They know no Books but their Prayer-Books, are extremely credulous, and give into all the Externals of Religion: This makes their Converſation ſometimes inſipid; and unleſs now and then a Love-Story falls in, Rain and Fair-Weather are their general Topics. They have at leaſt as great a Conceit of *Vienna* as the *Pariſians* have of *Paris*; for out of *Vienna* they think there's no Salvation. But all theſe little Defects are repair'd by an uncommon Greatneſs of Soul, and Generoſity. They are hearty Friends, and warm Protectors of thoſe whoſe Intereſts they eſpouſe. When they are in love, their Paſſion is ſincere; and inſtead of ruining their Lovers, there are ſome who have made

made the Fortunes of thoſe to whom they have taken a Fancy. Upon this Head I have been told, that in the Reign of the Emperor *Joſeph*, when Gallantry was more in vogue than 'tis now, there was a Lady, who being in love with a Gentleman, and having a mind to make his Fortune without the Cenſure of the Public, thought fit in an Aſſembly where her Spark cut at Baſſet, to punt againſt him. She ſet a Bett, without telling a Soul how much ſhe ſtak'd. Her Huſband coming into the Room where they were at Play, ſhe roſe up, took the Marks that were againſt her, threw them on the Ground, and ſaid to the Banker, loud enough to be heard by her Huſband, *I owe you*, Sir, 40000 *Florins*. The Huſband in a very great Surprize aſk'd what was the matter? *I have been ſuch a Fool*, ſaid ſhe, pointing to the Banker, *as to loſe* 40000 *Florins to* Monſieur *N*.... *You have reaſon to chide me; but however my Debt muſt be paid.* The Huſband indeed grumbled very much, and ſaid he wou'd not pay. *What!* reply'd the Wife, *won't you pay the Gentleman? It ſhall fare the worſe with you if you don't, for I am reſolv'd to pay him in ſome Coin or other.* The Huſband perceiving his Wife ſo reſolute, and that if he did not depoſite the Money it wou'd ſubject him to the Loſs of what was more precious, choſe rather to part with the Caſh; and indeed he had no reaſon to repent of it, for the Lady's Heart was ſo won by it, that ſhe renounc'd the Sight of her Lover from that Moment, and made a very ſober Wife.

This, Sir, is all I have to give you concerning the Temper of the Women. Let me tell you alſo how they ſpend their Time. They riſe late. As ſoon almoſt as their Eyes are open, they call for Chocolate, and ſend to their Huſbands to know who they have invited to Dinner, and whether there is room for any more Gueſts. If the Lady does

not

not like the Company, ſhe ſends notice to ſome Lady of her Acquaintance that ſhe intends to dine with her; but if there be room at home, as a polite Huſband always takes care to leave ſome at the Diſpoſal of his Wife, ſhe ſends an Invitation to whom ſhe pleaſes. After this ſhe dreſſes and goes to Maſs; for here the Ladys are all ſo devout that there's none but what hears at leaſt one Maſs in a day. There they read in five or ſix different Prayer-Books, kiſs all the Pictures that are at the head of the Prayers, and very devoutly toſs their Beads. After the Office is over they commonly chat a quarter of an Hour in the Church. Then they go abroad and make ſome friendly Viſits, or elſe go home to receive them. At theſe Viſits they hear all the News in *Vienna*. During this they have all a little Box of *Indian* Lack upon their Knees, in which they thread Gold till Dinner-time. When that's over, they drink Coffee or play at *Quinze* till Night, when they go to Court. From the Empreſs's Apartment they adjourn to the Aſſembly, where they divert themſelves at *Piquet*, or at *Quadrille*; and then retire, undreſs themſelves, go to Supper, and thence to Bed, well pleaſed to think with what Indolence and Idleneſs they have ſpent the Day.

The Women of the ſecond Claſs, in which I include the Gentlewomen that have no Titles of Honour, *viz.* the Wives of the Aſſeſſors, Referendaries and Agents of the Court, diſcover ſuch an Air of Plenty and Proſperity as is remarkably ſurprizing. Their Houſes are richly furniſh'd, and their Tables well ſerv'd. If a Referendary has a mind to a nice bit, no body muſt offer to take it; and the beſt of every thing is what they are ſure to lay hands on. Belly-Cheer is one of thoſe things which the *Auſtrians* generally think of moſt: They require a great many Diſhes, and thoſe well-cramm'd.

They

They are ſo very much accuſtom'd to this Profuſion of Eatables that I have known ſome young People in *Auſtria* affirm they don't know what good Eating is in *France*, becauſe they don't ſerve up a couple of Loins of Veal in one Diſh. Different ſorts of Wines are what they are alſo very much us'd to, which certainly is very expenſive becauſe foreign Wines pay conſiderable Dutys; yet nothing leſs will ſerve them than eight or ten ſorts of Wine, and I have been at Houſes where there have been no leſs than eighteen. They place a Note under every Plate expreſſing the ſeveral ſorts of Wine at the Beaufet.

The Burghers and common ſort of People mimick the Nobility as far as their Purſes will afford; and it may be ſaid that no Nation in the World is ſo extravagant as this.

The *Auſtrians* are naturally proud and haughty, and expect all Mankind ſhould ſtoop to them. As their Sovereign is the firſt in Rank among the Chriſtian Princes, ſo they think theirs to be the chief Nation in the World. Nothing is more vain nor more inſupportable than a young *Auſtrian*, whoſe Father is in any Rank at Court. They are intoxicated with Pride and Preſumption; and as they know themſelves to be rich, and their Fathers to be great Lords, they think they may deſpiſe all the World, and lay aſide that courteous and polite Behaviour which would ſo well become their Birth. Yet what I here obſerve to you concerning the young People is not ſo univerſally true as not to admit of great Exceptions, which is the Caſe of every thing aſſerted in the general.

The Court is not without Ladies who are much to be valued. The Empreſs Regent honours with her Confidence Madame the Counteſs *de Fuchs*, whoſe Huſband was Miniſter of State to the Emperor, and his Plenipotentiary at *Hambourg*, where he dy'd. This Counteſs is Siſter to the Count *de Molard*,

Molard, Steward of the Emperor's Kitchens. She is a very polite Lady, and is ſo far from being envy'd for being a Favourite that all Perſons of Diſtinction agree ſhe deſerves it, becauſe ſhe ſupports it with Modeſty, and makes no other Uſe of it but to do good.

Madamoiſelle *de Klenck* has a very great ſhare in the Favour of the Empreſs Dowager, which I take to be a Reward due to her long Services, and to her Merit. She is chief Maid of Honour to that Princeſs, and has been engag'd to her ever ſince ſhe has been at *Vienna*. If the Character of a thorough Gentlewoman may be attributed to any of the Sex, Madamoiſelle *de Klenck* deſerves it more than any other, it being impoſſible for a Perſon to have more Integrity, and more Generoſity.

The Counteſs Dowager of *Altheim*, of the *Pignatelli* Family, in regard to whoſe Rank I ought to have mention'd her firſt, if I obſerv'd a very ſtrict Order in my Writings, is a Native of *Spain*. The Count *d'Altheim* marry'd her at *Barcelona*. Her Beauty was the more admir'd in *Spain* beauſe ſhe was fair. This Lady has a noble Air, and has a Genius capable for Affairs of the greateſt Conſequence. Their Imperial Majeſties pay her great Diſtinction, and all the Courtiers honour and reſpect her ſo that now in her Widowhood ſhe continues in good Credit, and almoſt as much Authority as ſhe had when that great Favourite her Huſband was living.

The Nobility of *Auſtria*, and of all the Emperor's Hereditary Dominions, are ſo fond of the Title of Count that the Gentlemen buy and ſollicit it as eagerly as if it was a great Eſtate. 'Tis well for them that the Diſpatch of their Patents does not coſt much; for the greateſt Privilege which this brings them is all a Chimæra. Theſe Counts may be ſaid to hold the ſame Rank among the ancient Counts of

of the Empire as the King's Secretaries in *France* do among the Gentlemen of good Families.

As for Gentlemen, they are ſo common here that there are ſcarce any others to be ſeen. All the Agents of the Court, and all the Referendaries procure themſelves a Title, tho' I know not why; for neither they nor their Wives dare to rank themſelves among the Prime Nobility. This Madneſs of theirs to be enobled is ſo common, and ſo eaſy to be gratified, that I have known a Man, who was formerly Meſſenger to the Emperor *Joſeph*, purchaſe the Title of Baron; and his Children begin to mix with the *Grand Monde*.

Theſe, Sir, were all the Remarks that I made upon the *Auſtrians*. I muſt give you a few Particulars concerning the Emperor's Perſon. I have already ſaid ſomething to you of his Character: What follows is to ſhew you how grateful he is, and how friendly, Virtues which are the more to be eſteem'd in him becauſe they are not the moſt familiar to great Men.

The Emperor ſhows all poſſible marks of Gratitude to thoſe *Spaniards* who adher'd to him while he was at *Barcelona*. He has loaded them with Wealth and Honours; and if it's poſſible for one's native Country to be forgot, he has put them in a Situation to forget theirs. This particular Goodneſs of the Emperor extends to all that followed his Fortunes in *Spain*; whom he diſtinguiſhes upon all Occaſions, and does them good preferably to his other Subjects. As to Friendſhip, no Monarch ever had more for any Favourite than *Charles* had for the late Count *d'Altheim*, his Maſter of the Horſe. This Nobleman was the Emperor's Page, when he was only Arch-Duke; and he attended that Prince to *Spain*, where his Care, his Services, his Aſſiduity, and above all his Honeſty and his Integrity, won him the intire Confidence of the young

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Monarch. When this Prince became Emperor he rewarded the Count with Honours, Wealth, and Dignities. He lov'd him as long as he liv'd, and his Memory is ſtill dear to him. As ſoon as he dy'd, the Emperor declar'd himſelf Guardian to his Children, gave Orders in what manner they ſhou'd be brought up, and now treats them much more like his own Children than his Subjects. But what wou'd you ſay of the Emperor's tender Love for the Empreſs? Some time ago this Princeſs being dangerouſly ill, the Emperor not only ſent for his Phyſicians, and conjur'd them to employ all their Art to ſave her Life, but promis'd them Rewards ſuitable to that Service, and actually watched with her ſeveral Nights to ſee her take the Remedies they preſcrib'd. Does not a Conjugal-Love ſo perfect, deſerve to be rewarded by the Birth of an Archduke? Adieu, Sir. If I were Emperor, you ſhou'd be my Count *d' Altheim*; but in the Condition I am in, you are the Perſon whom I honour moſt of all Mankind; and am, &c.

LETTER XIV.

SIR, *Munich, Jan.* 5, 1730.

AS I came hither from *Vienna*, I ſtay'd two Days at LINTZ, the Capital of *Upper Auſtria*. This City lies on the *Danube*, over which there is a wooden Bridge. 'Tis a little Town, but well built, and has fine Churches. Its Inhabitants are thriving, and they drive a great Trade in Linnen Cloth. 'Tis the Reſidence of a great many Perſons of Quality, and of the Regency of the Province, of which the Count *de Thirheim* is the Chief. This Nobleman lodges in the Imperial Palace, which ſtands upon an Eminence, and commands the City. The Building is commodious enough, but not ſo magnificent. The Emperor *Leopold* ſtay'd here during the Siege of *Vienna*; till not thinking himſelf ſafe in it he retir'd to *Paſſaw*. The Neighbourhood of *Lintz* is very agreeable. All the way hither from *Vienna* the *Danube* is lin'd on both ſides with Vineyards; but from *Lintz* to this Place, inſtead of Vines, there are Plantations of Hops.

MUNICH, in the *German* Tongue *Munchen*, ſtands in the middle of a large Plain, and in the Center of *Bavaria*, of which it is the Capital City. The Walls of it are waſhed by the River *Iſer*; 'tis a ſmall Town, but better built than fortified, for within theſe few Years ſeveral fine Houſes have been

rais'd in it. The Elector's Palace is one of the biggeſt Piles of Building in *Europe*, but it wants a great deal of being ſo handſome a Structure as *Miſſon* and ſeveral other Authors have repreſented it; for its Magnificence conſiſts principally in its Bulk. The chief Front, which looks towards a very narrow Street, has the Reſemblance of a fair Convent; to which the Image of the Virgin *Mary* over the great Gate contributes not a little. That for which 'tis held in moſt Eſteem is the great Apartment which is call'd the *Emperor's* Apartment. The Connoiſſeurs in Painting admire the Pictures in the great Hall, which repreſent both Sacred and Prophane Hiſtory, and are performed by the Hand of *Candi*. The Chimney-piece in the ſame Room is very much eſteem'd: Among other fine Figures with which it is adorn'd, there's a Statue of Porphyry that repreſents *Virtue* holding a Spear in the Right Hand, and in the Left a gilt Palm-Branch. In 1632, when *Guſtavus Adolphus* King of *Sweden* made himſelf Maſter of *Munich*, he thought this ſo beautiful a Room that he was ſorry he could not get it tranſported to *Stockholm*. In the Reign of *Ferdinand Mary*, Grandfather to the preſent Elector, great part of the Palace of *Munich* was reduc'd to Aſhes, which Accident was, 'tis ſaid, the Occaſion of that Prince's Death; for being at *Straubingen* when he received the ſad News of the Fire, he took Horſe immediately and rode with ſuch Fury to *Munich* that he receiv'd a Fall which in a little time prov'd his Death.

The preſent Elector *Charles-Albert-Cajetan* has embelliſh'd the Palace with a new Apartment, which, tho' not ſo big as the Emperor's, exceeds it in Magnificence. 'Tis adorn'd with noble Pictures, antique Buſts, and Vaſes plac'd upon * Tables of very

* In the Beginning of the Year 1730, this Apartment was burnt down by a Fire which broke out in the Night-time; ſo that the Elector and Electreſs had like to have been burnt in their Beds, and ſcarce any of the fine Furniture was ſav'd.

great Value; and among other Things there's the Picture of the Virgin done by St. *Luke*.

There's a ſecret Paſſage from the Palace thro' little Galleries to all the Churches and Convents in the Town. The neareſt Church is that of the *Theatins*, which together with their Monaſtery was built by *Maria-Adelaide* of *Savoy* Wife to *Ferdinand-Mary*. The Fryars of this Convent muſt be twenty ſeven in number, and all Men of Quality. They ſubſiſt by charitable Donations; but dare not aſk Alms, and muſt wait for ſuch Proviſions as Providence ſhall pleaſe to ſend them. When they have ſuffer'd extreme Want at any Time for three Days together, they are permitted to ring a Bell as a Token of their Diſtreſs; but it has been obſerv'd that this never happen'd above twice ſince their firſt Eſtabliſhment, becauſe the Electors are too charitable to let them want. The Tomb of the Princes of *Bavaria* is in the Church of theſe honeſt Fryars.

The Church of our Lady is the parochial Church of *Munich*. In it is the ſtately Tomb of the Emperor *Lewis* of *Bavaria* who dy'd of Poiſon. 'Tis adorn'd with a great many fine Figures of Braſs and Marble. In this Church the Elector on the 24th of *April* laſt inſtituted the Order of St. *George*, by Authority of Pope *Benedict* XIII. The Ceremony was perform'd with a vaſt deal of Pomp, and the Elector of *Cologn* officiated at the High Maſs. The Promotion conſiſted of three Grand Priors, ſix Grand Croſſes, a Commander, and ſix Knights. Some time after this firſt Promotion the Elector made a ſecond, in which he appointed one Grand Croſs, and nine Knights. 'Tis ſaid there will ſpeedily be a third Promotion of eight more Knights, the whole Number being to conſiſt of forty *.

The

* The Order conſiſts at preſent of a Grand Maſter who is the Elector, and two Grand Priors, who are the Electoral Prince and Duke *Ferdinand*, ſix Grand Croſſes, nine Commanders, and ſeveral Knights.

The Elector intends to annex Commanderies to his Order. They who are admitted into it muſt give Proofs of their Extraction from ſixteen Deſcents; and this is ſo ſtrictly obſerv'd that his moſt Serene Electoral Highneſs, as Grand Maſter of the Order, has renounc'd all Power of granting any Diſpenſation from it. According to the Statutes of this Order all the Knights are oblig'd to be Catholics, to defend the Faith and the Church, to protect Widows and Orphans, and to practiſe all the Chriſtian Virtues. The Badge of the Order is a large Sky-blue Ribbon border'd about the breadth of an Inch with a black and white Stripe; and at the end of the Ribbon hangs a Croſs enamell'd with blue, in the middle of which there is a St. *George*.

The Church and Convent of the Reverend Fathers the Jeſuits are two very magnificent Structures. The Roof of the Church which is one ſingle Nave is a Work of Skill and Ingenuity, wherein the Apertures are contriv'd with very great Art; for which reaſon, the Curious look upon this Fabric as a Maſter-piece of Architecture.

The Church of the Reverend Fathers of St. *Auſtin*, tho' but of a moderate Size, contains Beauties that are not always to be met with in greater Fabrics. The Pictures with which it is adorn'd are highly eſteem'd, and good Judges agree there are few that can parallel them.

Tho' the Houſes of *Munich* are all very well built, there are few that can be call'd Hotels or Palaces. The Count *Pioſas* a *Piedmonteſe* has caus'd one to be built of late Years which is a conſiderable Structure with regard to the true Proportions of its Outſide, and to the ingenious Diſtribution of the Apartments, which have fine Decorations and good Furniture.

The Court of *Bavaria* obſerves moſt of the Cuſtoms of the Court of *Vienna* in matters of Cere-

mony, but as for the reſt, their Way of living is different; here being more Freedom, and more Diverſion.

The Elector *Charles-Albert* delights in Pleaſures and bodily Exerciſe, and acquits himſelf therein with a Grace. He is a comely Perſonage, and has a grave, noble, and majeſtic Air, ſo that he is taken for a proud Man; yet few Princes are more gracious and more civil to Strangers, and to his Subjects alſo he is eaſy of Acceſs. He was full of Life and Spirit when he was a Prince, and now that he is a Sovereign is become ſedate and moderate. He is genteel, talks *French*, *Italian*, and *Latin* well, is Maſter of Hiſtory, and perfectly acquainted with the Intereſt of Princes in general, and that of his own Family in particular. He ſticks to Buſineſs, and above all ſeems to be very earneſt in redreſſing his Finances which he found in great Diſorder when he acceded to the Electorate. The Elector was born the 6th of *Auguſt*, 1697. He is Son of *Maximilian-Emanuel* famous for his Victories and for his Diſgrace, and of *Thereſa-Cunegunda-Sobieſki*, Daughter of *John Sobieſki* King of *Poland*. When *Charles* came into the World he had a Brother living who was born of the Arch-Ducheſs *Mary-Maximilian*, *Emanuel*'s firſt Wife. This young Prince who all *Europe* expected wou'd be the Succeſſor of *Charles* II. King of *Spain*, dying at *Bruſſels* the 6th of *February*, 1699, *Charles* thereby became the Electoral Prince: He was bred up at *Munich* with four of his Brothers, but both he and his Brothers ſurrender'd Priſoners to the Emperor *Joſeph* after the Battle of *Hochſtet*, which ſubjected all *Bavaria* to his Imperial Majeſty. That Monarch had the young Princes remov'd to *Gratz* where he caus'd them to be treated in a manner not ſo ſuitable to their high Birth as to their decay'd Fortune. When *Joſeph* dy'd, his Succeſſor *Charles* VI. us'd the Princes

ces with leſs Severity, caus'd them to be honourably attended, and ſent them Maſters to inſtruct them; and upon the Peace of *Raſtadt* which reinſtated the Elector *Maximilian-Emanuel* in his Dominions, the Princes his Children were reſtor'd to him. They finiſh'd their Studies at *Munich*, after which the Elector ſent the four eldeſt to *Rome*, where the ſecond, whoſe Name was Duke *Philip*, dy'd not long after he had been choſe Biſhop of *Munſter* and *Paderborn*. *Charles* returning from *Italy* went to *Vienna*, made the Campaign of *Belgrade*, and ſome Years after that, he marry'd *Mary-Amelia-Anne* of *Auſtria*, the late Emperor *Joſeph*'s ſecond Daughter. In 1725, *Charles* and his three Brothers were at *Fontainbleau*, at the Marriage of *Lewis* XIV. and next Year he ſucceeded his Father who dy'd at *Munich* lamented as he was ador'd by his Courtiers.

The Electoreſs who is a little Woman, very much reſembles the Empreſs her Mother, and has more Vivacity than is common to the Princes of the Houſe of *Auſtria*. She prefers Hunting to all other Pleaſures, and there are few Days but ſhe partakes of that Diverſion with the Elector, who, as well as the Princes his Brothers is fond of it.

The Elector has by his Marriage two *Princes and two Princeſſes. The eldeſt of the Sons who has the Title of the Electoral Prince is call'd *Maximilian-Joſeph*, and was born the 28th of *March*, 1727. His moſt ſerene Electoral Highneſs's three Brothers are Duke *Ferdinand*, the Elector of *Cologn*, and the Biſhop of *Freiſingen* and *Ratiſbon*. Of theſe Princes Duke *Ferdinand* is the only one who reſides at *Munich*. His moſt ſerene Highneſs is a Lieutenant-General, and has a Regiment of Cuiraſſiers in the Emperor's Service. He is alſo a Knight of the *Golden Fleece*, and Grand Prior of the Order of St. *George*. He marry'd *Mary-Anne-Caroline* of

* The ſecond is dead.

Newbourg, by whom he has two Sons and one Daughter. I have already told you that he was educated with the Elector his Brother, with whom he made the Campaign of *Belgrade*, travell'd ſeveral times to *Italy*, and laſt of all to *France*, where thoſe Princes were admir'd for their Splendor, their Politeneſs, their good Taſte, and their fine Underſtanding. One ſhan't find a Man more affable than Duke *Ferdinand* who is even ador'd at *Munich*, and is dearly belov'd by the Elector his Brother. The Ducheſs his Wife who is the beſt-natur'd Princeſs in the World makes grand Entertainments, and is particularly civil to Strangers.

The Biſhop of *Freiſingen* and *Ratiſbon* ſpends more of his Time at *Munich* than in his Dioceſe. He is a Prince of great Penetration, Spirit and Vivacity, is generous, liberal, and charitable, extremely civil, and 'tis impoſſible to be acquainted with him without adding Love to that Reſpect and Veneration which are due to his Birth and Character. He enter'd very young into Orders, and was conſecrated Biſhop by his Brother the Elector of *Cologn*. 'Twas thought at firſt that he wou'd have made but an indifferent Eccleſiaſtic, but he has demonſtrated that he knows how to reconcile the Gravity of a Prelate with the Magnanimity of a Temporal Prince.

The Court of *Bavaria* is without diſpute the moſt gallant, and the politeſt in *Germany*. We have a *French* Comedy here together with Balls and Gaming every Day, and a Concert of Muſic three Times a Week, at which all the Company is maſk'd; and after the Concert there's Gaming and Dancing. Theſe public Aſſemblies, at which the Elector and the whole Court are preſent, bring in a great Revenue to the Elector's *Valets de Chambre*; for beſides the Money which every one pays at Entrance, they are alſo paid for the Cards, and are con-

concern'd in almoſt all the Banks; ſo that thoſe Domeſtics have almoſt all the Caſh of the Nobility, with whom they don't ſcruple neither to rank themſelves. Beſides theſe noiſy Pleaſures we have others that are more tranquil, I mean thoſe of civil Society. Of this kind there's more here than in the other Towns of *Germany*; but more ſtill among the Foreigners that are in the Elector's Service than among the *Bavarians*; for theſe are generally proud, tho' 'tis certainly more owing to their Opinion that it gives them a good Air to be ſo than to their Temper; and they actually become more ſociable when they are made ſenſible that their grand Airs are not aſtoniſhing.

The Title of Count is as common here as at *Vienna*, and the *Bavarian* Counts have no greater Privileges than thoſe of *Auſtria*, for they are as much Subjects as the meaneſt Gentlemen. I find that thoſe in Places, and who bear any Rank at Court are much more polite than others. The Counts *de Thirheim*, *Torring*, and *Freiſing* who have the chief Employments are ſo civil that I believe there's few Foreigners but will give them their Encomium.

The Elector has a very large Houſhold, and a number of great Officers. I'll mention ſome of them to you.

The Count *Maximilian de Torring-Seefeldt* is Steward of the Elector's Houſhold, a Miniſter of State, and Knight of the *Golden Fleece*. This Nobleman who is advanc'd in Years, is good-natur'd and civil, ſpeaks little, is naturally grave, not fond of Pomp, and lives retir'd in the middle of a Court, but when he makes any Entertainment does it with Grandeur. He never once abandon'd the Elector *Maximilian Emanuel* his former Maſter, but follow'd him in his Fortunes both good and bad.

The

The Count *Sigiſmond de Thirheim* is Great Chamberlain, a Miniſter of State, and Grand Croix of the Order of St. *George*. He is very tall, and tho' his Air is not the moſt affable, he is courteous and civil. He lives very nobly, and does the Honours of the Court very handſomely; conſequently he is generally beloved and eſteem'd. He was Governor of the Elector, who, contrary to moſt Princes that are not apt to retain an Eſteem for thoſe who once had the Care of their Education, gives great Proofs of his Regard for the Count *de Thirheim*.

The Count *Maximilian de Fugger* is Grand Marſhal *. As he does not live at *Munich*, I have nothing particular to tell you of him.

The Count *Maximilian de Preyſing* Maſter of the Horſe, Preſident of the Chamber of Finances, a Miniſter of State, and Grand Croix of the Order of St. *George* is a very polite Nobleman, but ſerious and grave to the laſt degree. 'Tis difficult for any Man to be more attach'd to his Religion, to have more Candor, and to be more upright than this Miniſter. His Probity has brought Envy upon him, but it has procur'd him the Elector's intire Confidence, of which however the Count makes no farther Advantage than is requiſite for his Maſter's Buſineſs. He is accus'd of being cloſe-fiſted, and of diſſuading the Elector from giving Gratuities; but 'tis agreed that he is very charitable to the Poor. 'Tis a hard matter for a Miniſter who has the Direction of the Finances to pleaſe every body, and he is commonly the Butt of public Cenſure.

The Count *de Rechberg* Great Huntſman †, Miniſter of State, Preſident of the Council of War, Lieutenant General, and Grand Croix of the Order of St. *George*, is Commander in Chief of the Elector's

* The preſent Grand Marſhal is the Count *Gaudentz de Rechberg*, a Grand Croix of the Order of St. *George*.

† The Baron *de Freyſing* is at preſent Great Huntſman.

lector's Forces: He accompany'd the late Elector to *France* where he acquir'd the Reputation of an experienc'd ſkilful General.

Ignatius-Joſeph Count *de Torring* is a Miniſter of State, Grand Maſter of the Artillery, and a Grand Croix of St. *George*. He follow'd the late Elector into *France*, and after that Prince was reſtor'd he went as Miniſter Plenipotentiary to the Imperial Court, where he negotiated the Marriage of the preſent Elector with the Archduchеſs, youngeſt Daughter to the late Emperor *Joſeph*.

I cou'd tell you of many other Perſons of Diſtinction at the Court of *Bavaria*, only I fear that being too particular wou'd tire your Patience. The Miniſters who bear the greateſt Sway are the Counts *Maximilian de Preyſing* and *de Torring*, and M. *d' Unertel*. The firſt is Director of the Finances; the ſecond has the Province of Foreign Affairs; and the third takes care of Affairs Domeſtic and Military. Theſe three Miniſters are the Arbiters of *Bavaria*, and to them the Tribunals of the ſeveral Provinces muſt apply.

Bavaria is divided into four Cantons or Provinces, *viz.* the Cantons of *Munich*, *Burghauſen*, *Landſtrut* and *Straubingen*. Each of theſe Provinces has a Regency or Parliament; and an Appeal lies from Sentences therein paſs'd to the Elector's Council of State.

'Tis certain that *Bavaria* is one of the beſt States in the Empire. 'Tis ſaid that it brings in ſeven Millions of Florins, and I have been aſſured by Perſons who have Opportunities of being inform'd of the State of the Finances that there was a time when the late Elector received eleven Millions *per Ann.* The Riches of *Bavaria* are owing to the Exportation of Salt and Corn, and to the Conſumption of the Beer brew'd in the Country, which is as good as any in the World. *Tirol*, and the Country

of

of *Saltzbourg*, have almoſt all the Corn which they ſpend from *Bavaria*, and the Elector has a Florin for every Sack that is exported. Another thing which is a Treaſure to *Bavaria* is the Fir-Trees, a Wood that ſerves for every Uſe that can be imagin'd, whether for Building, or for Houſhold-Stuff. There is not a Province in the Empire where Proviſions are cheaper, and in the mean time there's a vaſt Home-Conſumption; for beſides that the *Bavarians* love good Eating and Drinking, the Country is very populous; and 'tis computed that the Inhabitants of *Munich* alone are above 40,000.

Of all the Sovereigns in *Europe*, next to the King of *France*, the Elector of *Bavaria* has the fineſt Pleaſure-Houſes, for which he may thank the Elector his Father who had a wonderful good Fancy and Judgment.

NYMPHENBOURG a ſhort League from *Munich* is a charming Place. The Caſtle is to be ſeen a great way off by reaſon of its Situation in the middle of a great Plain, ſo that from the Apartments of the ſecond Story one diſcovers a vaſt Tract of Country, and an infinite number of Rural Beauties that are in the Neighbourhood of *Munich*. *Mary-Adelaide de Savoy* (Mother to *Maximilian-Emanuel*) who was extremely fond of the Arts and Sciences, and knew them perfectly well, was the Perſon who laid the Foundations of that Caſtle. The Man that ſhe employ'd to build it was an *Italian* Architect whom ſhe ſent for out of *Italy* for the purpoſe. But all this Palace conſiſted only of one great Pavilion. *Maximilian-Emanuel* thinking the Caſtle too ſmall, cauſed ſeveral Manſions to be added to it, together with fine Stables and grand Gardens; in ſhort, he put the whole into that magnificent Condition we ſee it in at this day. His moſt ſerene Electoral Highneſs lets the Pavilion ſtand in pure reſpect to the Memory of his Mother who built it,

but

but 'tis pity he does; for 'tis much higher than the reſt of the Edifice, and is no good Ornament to the main Building. In order to give you a more perfect Idea of this Houſe, I will tell you that it looks towards a great and magnificent Canal terminated at each end by a ſpacious Baſin adorn'd with Water-works and double Rows of Trees on each ſide which form the Avenues. We enter into the Caſtle by an Aſcent of Marble Steps: The firſt Room we come to is a very great high Salon adorn'd with Architecture of Plaiſter of *Paris* very well executed. From each ſide of this Salon there is a Paſſage into ſeveral Apartments of which I ſhall not ſtop to give you the Detail, becauſe I don't think it in my power to convey a ſuitable Idea to you of the Richneſs of the Furniture, and all the fine things that are in it. Imagine only that the late Elector who had an exquiſite Taſte, and a noble Soul, ſpar'd no Coſt to adorn theſe Apartments. I paſs to the Gardens which one enters from the Great Hall by a Deſcent of Marble Steps. The firſt thing that ſtrikes the Eye is a Parterre of a vaſt Extent, at the Entrance of which there is a great Baſon ornamented with a Group of Figures of mill'd Lead gilt with Water-Gold repreſenting *Flora* receiving Flowers from *Nymphs* and *Cupids*. At the end of the Parterre there is one of the moſt agreeable Woods in the World, which is cut by three Walks in form of a Gooſe's Foot. The middlemoſt fronts the great Pavilion of the Caſtle, and has a large Canal in the middle of it of which one can't ſee the end: 'Tis terminated by a fine Caſcade form'd by ſeveral Blocks of Marble, and adorn'd with fine Statues. The ſecond Walk on the right hand leads one to the Mall which forms a Semi-Circle, and is one of the fineſt and longeſt I ever ſaw. At the Entrance of this Mall there is a Pavilion call'd *Pagodebourg* (the *Caſtle of the Pagode*;) 'tis two Stories high

high, and built in form of the *Pagodes* Temples. I believe there never was any thing prettier. All the Furniture of this little Palace is *Indian*, of a charming Contrivance and Elegancy; and the whole is ſo well laid out that notwithſtanding the ſmallneſs of the Houſe, the Elector has every Convenience in it that can be deſir'd. Over-againſt *Pagodebourg* on the other ſide of the Canal in the third Walk is *Badenbourg* (the *Caſtle of Baths*) which is a more conſiderable Building, and has all the Beauty of the Modern Bagnios. The Baths are ſpacious and lin'd with Marble. There is an Apartment conſiſting of ſeveral Pieces adorned with Stucco, and Pictures repreſenting *Venus* in the Bath, *Diana* in the Water with her Nymphs, and the other Subjects of the Fable. The whole Apartment glitters with Gold, and the Furniture of it is rich, and of a charming Fancy. This beautiful Houſe is ſurrounded with fine Pieces of Water adorned with Caſcades and Statues. Theſe Baths wou'd moſt certainly deſerve a particular Deſcription, and I am angry with myſelf for not being able to give it.

'Tis certain that next to the Gardens of *Verſailles*, there is none ſo magnificent as thoſe of *Nymphenbourg*; which is a Place that Art and Nature ſeem to have joined their Forces in order to render noble and agreeable.

The Caſtle of *Schleiſheim* is a more regular Building than that of *Nymphenbourg*, and makes ſo grand an Appearance that I don't know any Houſe in *Germany* that can compare with it. The great Stair-caſe and the Salon in the large Apartment are the only Pieces in their kind. They are fac'd with Marble, and painted in a moſt correct and beautiful manner.

Taco, *Furſtenriet* and *Starenberg* are Houſes fit for the Solacement of a Great Prince, and will be Teſti-

Teſtimonies to Poſterity of the Elector *Maximilian-Emanuel*'s grand and happy Taſte.

Of all the Elector's Houſes *Nymphenbourg* is that where the Court reſides moſt. It is as well a Hunting-Houſe as a Pleaſure-Houſe, by reaſon of a Park in the Neighbourhood which is eight Leagues in Compaſs, and cut out into a great number of fine long Roads. Here the Elector comes to rouze the Stag; and there is a little Park adjoining to the Gardens, which, as well as the adjacent Fields, abounds with Pheaſants, Partridges, and all other Game of that ſort.

When the Court is at *Nymphenbourg* the Electreſs has a Drawing-Room there three times a Week where there is Gaming, and when that is over the Ladies ſup with their Electoral Highneſſes, who ſometimes admit Gentlemen of their Court to their Table, but commonly all Foreigners. They who prefer taking the Air to Gaming, find open Calaſhes every Evening drawn by two Horſes, at the bottom of the Steps on the ſide of the Garden: A Gentleman drives the Calaſh, two Ladies ride in it, and a Gentleman ſtands behind. And ſuch as prefer the Water find very neat Gondolas finely gilt upon the Canal at their Service; ſo that there is no want of any thing to add to the Pleaſures of all ſorts in this inchanting Place.

Were I to enumerate to you all the various Pleaſures of this Court I ſhould never have done. For the preſent I ſhall confine myſelf to theſe already mentioned. I am reſolved to ſet out in three or four days for *Stutgard*. I ſhall lie at *Augſbourg*, and at *Ulm*. A Froſt which has held for a Month without ceaſing has made the Roads ſo hard that I hope I ſhall roll along finely. I expect to hear from you at *Stutgard*. Pray take care that I be not diſappointed, and believe that I am very ſincerely, *&c.*

LET-

LETTER XV.

SIR, *Stutgard, Jan.* 14, 1730.

THERE is nothing remarkable between *Munich* and *Augsbourg* except it be the fine Abbey of FURSTENFELDT, which is in Poſſeſſion of the *Bernardin* Fryars. It was founded by *Lewis the Severe* Duke of *Bavaria* to attone for his Wickedneſs in putting *Joan* of *Brabant* his Wife unjuſtly to Death. The Hiſtory of *Bavaria* relates the Fact thus: *Joan* was a very beautiful Princeſs. Her Husband who was doatingly fond of her being obliged to take a Journey, put her under the Guard of one of his Aunts. While he was gone *Joan* wrote frequently to her Husband, and ſometimes to his Prime Miniſter and Favourite. One day ſhe put her Letters into the hands of a Domeſtic, charging him to deliver them as they were directed; but the Man made a Miſtake, and gave the Letter which was for the Duke to his Favourite, and that which was for the Miniſter to the Duke. *Lewis* thought that his Wife's Style was too obliging to a Subject, and was even mad with Jealouſy. He firſt kill'd his Favourite, and then taking Horſe poſted to *Donawert* where his Wife was. He came to the Caſtle in the Night-time, murder'd the Porter with his own hand, put his Aunt and all with whom he had left his Wife in charge to Death; and then like another *Herod*, cauſed the unfortunate *Joan* to be beheaded. The Night after this barbarous Action, the Hairs of

Lewis's

Lewis's head turn'd gray, tho' he was but twenty-eight years old; which Accident made him ſenſible of his Guilt and of the Innocence of his Wife. As his Barbarity was great ſo was his Repentance. He went on foot to *Rome* to beg the Pope's Abſolution for his Sins, and obtain'd it on condition that he wou'd cauſe a Church to be built, and found a Monaſtery in his Dominions. *Lewis* returning from *Rome* founded the Abbey at *Furſtenfeldt*. The firſt Eſtabliſhment was only for eight Fryars; but the Piety of the Princes of *Bavaria* having wrought upon them to beſtow their Favours upon this Houſe, it now maintains thirty Fryars and an Abbot, whom the Monks have the Prerogative to chuſe out of their own Body. Theſe good Fathers are actually erecting a very ſtately Church, and they enjoy all the Conveniences of Life.

The Country between *Munich* and *Augsbourg* is level and intermix'd with Woods and Plains. AUGSBOURG which is a Biſhop's See, and an Imperial City, is the Capital of *Swabia*, and one of the biggeſt and handſomeſt Towns in *Germany*. A ſmall Branch of the *Leck* paſſes thro' it, and ſupplies it with plenty of Water. The Streets of *Augsbourg* are broad, ſtrait and lightſome; the Houſes well built, and many of 'em full of Paintings. The Inhabitants look upon *Auguſtus* to be the Founder of their City. 'Tis true that Emperor ſent a Colony thither, but the Town was founded before. It is not ſaid what Name it went by before the Name of *Auguſta Vindelicorum* was given it to diſtinguiſh it from the other Towns that bore the Name of *Auguſta*. The clearing up of this difficulty is what I ſhall leave to the Antiquarians, and confine myſelf to the Tranſactions at *Augsbourg* for about two hundred years paſt. What will render this City for ever famous, is the Confeſſion of Faith which the Proteſtant Princes preſented here to the Emperor *Charles* V.

in the year 1530. Tho' the Proteſtants were at that time very powerful in *Augsbourg* they cou'd not keep their ground, for they were drove out by the *Bavarians*; but *Guſtavus Adolphus* reſtored them in 1632, ſince which time they have kept their Footing there, and ſhare the Government with the Roman Catholics. In 1687, the Emperor, *Spain*, the United Provinces, and the Electors of *Saxony*, *Brandenbourg*, and the Palatinate concluded that famous League at *Augsbourg* againſt *Lewis* XIV. who was beginning to inforce the Claim of the Ducheſs of *Orleans* his Siſter-in-Law to the Succeſſion of the Elector Palatine *Charles-Lewis*, who was that Princeſs's Brother. In 1690, *Joſeph* Archduke of *Auſtria* King of *Hungary*, the eldeſt Son of the Emperor *Leopold*, was conſecrated and crown'd King of the *Romans* at *Augsbourg*, at which Ceremony the Emperor, the Empreſs, the Electors of *Mentz*, *Cologn*, *Triers*, *Bavaria*, and the Palatinate were perſonally preſent.

In 1703, the Elector *Maximilian* of *Bavaria*, made himſelf Maſter of *Augsbourg* in one Week's time. This City had demanded and obtained a Neutrality, but having afterwards received an Imperial Garriſon the Elector made uſe of that Pretence to lay Siege to it. He caus'd the Fortifications to be demoliſh'd, foreſeeing, no doubt, that he ſhou'd not be able to keep the Place. *Augsbourg* was ſet free again by the Battle of *Hochſtet*, and ſtill enjoys its Freedom under its own Magiſtrates, the Biſhop having no Authority in the City as to Temporals. The preſent Biſhop is of the Family of *Neubourg*, and Brother to the Elector Palatine. This Prince has the ſame Goodneſs of Temper which is ſo natural to all his Family. As his Biſhoprick is not one of the moſt conſiderable in *Germany*, ſo his Court is none of the biggeſt, but his

his Houſhold is well regulated, and every thing conducted in it with Order and Splendor.

The Chapter of the Cathedral conſiſts of Perſons of Quality who are oblig'd to make Proof of their Nobility. The Canons have the Prerogative of chuſing their Biſhop, who like all the Prelates of *Germany* is a Sovereign Prince. He dwells at *Augſbourg*, tho' he ought to reſide at *Dillingen*. The Epiſcopal Palace is old, and not very commodious: It joins to the Cathedral which is a *Gothic* gloomy unwieldy Fabric, but its Ornaments are very rich.

The moſt conſiderable Building is the Townhouſe, a very ſubſtantial Pile built all of Freeſtone except the Portico, which is of Marble. The Rooms are very fine, and the great Hall eſpecially is to the laſt degree magnificent. The Walls are cover'd with Paintings, being ſuch Emblems and Devices as have relation to the Government. Nothing can be more beautiful than the Cieling which conſiſts all of Compartments whoſe Frames are carv'd and gilt in an extraordinary manner, the whole enrich'd with Pictures and other Ornaments perfectly well diſpos'd.

Before the Townhouſe there's a very ſtately Fountain, where, among other fine Figures of Braſs, the Statue of *Auguſtus* which is repreſented in a moſt noble Attitude is highly eſteem'd.

The City of *Augſbourg* is in my Opinion ſomething like *Antwerp* with regard to the Spaciouſneſs of the Streets and the Subſtantialneſs of its Buildings; and formerly when the *Venetians* were Maſters of all the Commerce, it reſembled it in Trade; for *Augſbourg* was then the Staple for Merchandize, which was from thence tranſported to a great part of *Europe*. But ſince *London* and *Amſterdam* are become the Warehouſes of the whole World, and the Commerce of *Venice* decays, the greateſt Trade of *Augſburg* conſiſts in Goldſmiths Wares, with which this City furniſhes *Germany*, *Poland*, and in general

almoſt all the North. Theſe Wares are much cheaper here than elſewhere, and when the Patterns are furniſh'd People are well ſerv'd. Notwithſtanding the Decay of its Commerce there are ſeveral very rich Families; but whether any can do what *Fugger* did to the Emperor *Charles* V. is a Queſtion. That Monarch paſſing thro' *Augſbourg* lodg'd at *Fugger*'s Houſe, who entertain'd him like an Emperor. The Fewel he burnt in every Chimney was Cedar, and after the Repaſt which was extraordinary ſumptuous, *Fugger* took a Bond for a very conſiderable Sum which the Emperor ow'd him, and threw it into the Fire.

The Nobility aſſemble commonly every Evening at the *Three Kings* Inn where I quarter. There's a very fine Hall well lighted, where they game, club for a Supper, and after Supper dance. Be not ſcandaliz'd that the Nobility have their Aſſembly at an Inn, it being one of the beſt Houſes in *Germany* and the moſt ſuperb Inn in *Europe*. There's very good Attendance. I have ſupp'd at it twice, and one cannot be better accommodated in any Houſe whatſoever.

From *Augſbourg* I came to ULM another Imperial City. Tho' all the Country is even, yet 'tis very tireſome to Travellers becauſe of the Pavement of the Cauſeys; but Thanks to the Snow which has levell'd the Ways, I have not been much incommoded; tho' on the other hand I had like to have been loſt in the Snow, ſuch a quantity of it having fallen for two Days that one could not diſtinguiſh the Roads. I found my ſelf at a Poſt-Stage where my Guide, tho' he was a Man that had grown grey in the Buſineſs of Poſtilion upon the ſame Road, did not know the Way. I was in Danger every Moment of tumbling into ſome Ditch, when juſt as we enter'd a certain Valley my Poſtilion ſounded a Horn to give notice to any Car-

Carriages or Horſes that might happen to meet us to make way, when a Voice from the Hollow call'd out to the Poſtilion, *Who's that? Stephen? Oh!* cry'd the Poſtilion, *Is it you, Chriſtopher? God be thank'd that I met with you!* Then turning towards me, he ſaid with an Air of Satisfaction, *Now you are out of all Danger, for here's a blind Man that will conduct us to the Place we are going to.* I thought the Droll jok'd with me, but we had not gone many Yards farther before I really ſaw a poor Wretch who could not ſee, yet offer'd to be my Guide, and promis'd he would conduct me very well. I abandon'd my ſelf to him, and he walk'd ſo faſt before my Chaiſe that the Horſes follow'd him in a gentle Trot till we came ſafe to the Stage. There he told me that 'twas fifteen Years ago that he loſt his Sight by the breaking of an Impoſthume in his Eyes, after having ſuffer'd ſuch horrible Pains for two Months that he bleſs'd himſelf for the Loſs of his Sight; ſo that when I aſk'd him if he was not very much concern'd at it, he ſaid that at firſt it made him melancholy for ſome time, but that he always comforted himſelf by the Remembrance of the Torture he had undergone in the Loſs of his Sight, and that he thought it were much better to be blind and to have his Health than to ſee, and ſuffer the Pains that he had endur'd; but that now he was ſo us'd to his Condition it gave him no Concern. Indeed, when I aſk'd him, if he ſhould not be very glad to recover his Sight? he ſaid, Yes, if it were poſſible; but that if he muſt undergo the ſame Pains to recover it as he had felt in the Loſs of it, he had rather by a thouſand times continue blind. When I told him of my Surprize that he ſhould find out the Way better than thoſe who ſee, he told me that ſince he had been blind he came regularly on Sundays and Saints Days to the Place where we were to hear Maſs, and that therefore the Road

was become very familiar to him. He added, that he ſometimes went alone to beg three or four Leagues from his Village which was a quarter of a League from the hollow Way where I met with him. I ſent the Man away, after giving him ſome Relief; and could not but admire the divine Providence, which tho' it had afflicted the poor Wretch with what to me ſeems more terrible than Death, gave him Strength to bear his Misfortune with Patience.

The City of *Ulm* is not above half as big as *Augſbourg*, but is much better fortify'd. The *Danube* which waſhes its Walls, becomes navigable at this Place, and a Boat goes from hence every Week for *Vienna*, which is a great Eaſe to People who are not in a Condition to lay out much Money; for it coſts but a *Creutzer*, which is one Penny a *German* Mile. Tho' the City of *Ulm* maintains a very numerous Gariſon, and is very well fortify'd, and furniſhed with a good Arſenal, the Elector *Maximilian* of *Bavaria* took it by Surprize in 1702; it being a Place neceſſary for him to ſecure his Dominions on that Side, and to facilitate the Paſſage of the *French* Troops that were to join his Army. General *Thungen* robb'd him of this Conqueſt the 10th of *Sept.* 1704, after about a Week's Siege. Then it was that *Ulm* became again ſubject to its Magiſtrates who are all *Lutherans*. The Catholics cannot enjoy Offices, but have ſeveral Churches. This City drives a great Trade in Linnen, but few of the Gentry live here except the Patricians who are not more ſociable than thoſe of *Nuremberg* and *Augſbourg*. The Burghers and the Women in particular go dreſs'd like thoſe at *Augſbourg*. To ſee them go to and come from Church is next kin to ſeeing a Maſquerade, and 'tis certainly one of the moſt diverting Sights in this City, where really I did not give my ſelf time to be tir'd, for I ſet out

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again the very next Day after I came, and arrived in this Town, where I have now reſted my ſelf a couple of Days.

STUTGARD lies in the middle of a Valley ſurrounded with Vineyards. 'Tis pretty large, has Streets broad and ſtrait, but the Houſes are of Timber. 'Tis the Capital of the Duchy of *Wirtemberg*, and was formerly the Reſidence of the Sovereigns of the Country; but *Eberhard-Lewis* the preſent Duke of *Wirtemberg* eſtabliſhed his Seat ſome Years ago at * *Ludwigſbourg*, a new City and a new Palace of his own building.

The Duke's Caſtle is an old Structure of Free-ſtone, compos'd of four Piles of Building, flank'd at each Angle by a Tower. The Walls of it are waſh'd by Ditches which give it the diſagreeable Air of a Priſon. The Ducheſs who is the Duke's Wife, and Siſter to the Margrave of *Baden-Dourlach* has an Apartment in this Palace. You know that this Princeſs and her Huſband don't live well together. The Prince † about twenty Years ago preferr'd a Miſtreſs to her ‖, who certainly has neither the Beauty, nor the Merit of the Ducheſs. The Princeſs is remarkably patient under the Indifference of a Huſband, and the Contempt of the moſt haughty Rival that ever was. The frequent Viſits paid her by her only Son are all the Comfort ſhe has. The Court neglects her, no body dares

* He dy'd *An.* 1733, and leaving no Children, his Son and Grandſon dying before him, was ſucceeded by *Charles-Alexander*, the eldeſt of his Couſin-Germans, the Son of Duke *Frederic-Charles*, who had been his Guardian till the Year 1693. The Duke *Eberhard-Lewis* was 57 Years of Age.

† The Duke was reconcil'd to her two Years before ſhe dy'd, and tho' ſhe was no leſs than fifty Years of Age, it was reported for a good while that ſhe was with Child.

‖ This was the Counteſs *de Gravenitz*. Since the Duke's Death the Duke Regent has commenc'd a Proſecution againſt her, and ſhe traverſes from one Court to another for that Protection which every one denies her.

to go near her, and whoever pays the Ducheſs the Reſpects that are naturally due to her, is ſure to incur the mercileſs Hatred of the Miſtreſs. I may be able perhaps to give you a farther Account of this Princeſs and her Rival when I have been at *Ludwigſbourg*, whither I propoſe to go to-morrow, and where I hope for a Line from you.

I am, &c.

LETTER XVI.

SIR, *Ludwigſbourg*, *Feb.* 2. 1730.

THE Duke of *Wirtemberg* is a Prince of a middling Size, and before he grew ſo fat was very well ſhap'd. He is genteel, affable, and well-belov'd, and few Princes treat their Courtiers with more Familiarity. He has been one of the beſt Dancers of his Time. He alſo ſits perfectly well on horſeback, and performs all bodily Exerciſes with infinite Gracefulneſs, and incomparable Dexterity. He takes pleaſure ſometimes in driving his own Coaches, and I have ſeen him drive eight Horſes without a Poſtillion, and manage them with as much Eaſe as if there was but one Horſe in the Harneſs. He is a Prince that loves Magnificence, is generous, gallant, and amorous. Tho' 'tis above twenty Years that he has kept one and the ſame Miſtreſs, he is as paſſionately fond of her, and gives as ſhining Proofs of it as ever. During the laſt War his moſt Serene Highneſs commanded the Army of the Empire on the *Upper Rhine*. He has

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an only Son marry'd to *Henrietta* of *Pruſſia*, Daughter of the Margrave *Philip*, Brother to *Frederic* I. King of *Pruſſia*. This young Prince is called the hereditary Prince. He is ſhort of Stature but handſome. He has one of the beſt Tempers that can be deſir'd in a Sovereign, being humane, good-natur'd, affable, and civil. It may be ſaid that the Father and the Son are the two politeſt Men at the Court of *Wirtemberg*. The Father has ſpent ſeveral Years in *Holland*, *Lorrain*, *Geneva*, *Turin*, *Italy*, and *France*. When he return'd from his Travels he went and marry'd at *Berlin*. He has an only Daughter who is very amiable. The hereditary Prince is vaſtly fond of Grandeur, Dancing, Plays and Muſic: He fatigues himſelf very much, and commonly rides ſeven or eight Horſes in a Morning. His tender Conſtitution and the little Care he takes of it make me apprehenſive he will not live to be an old Man *.

The hereditary Princeſs has an Air of Grandeur and Majeſty ſuitable to her Rank. She is tall and handſome, has a noble Mien, and tho' ſhe is not a regular Beauty, 'tis certain that ſhe has a very good Look. She is extremely grave, and does not ſeem to take a great Share in the Pleaſures of the Court. She ſeems to be moſt of all taken with Dreſs, and her Apparel is not only ſplendid but well-fancy'd. Her Royal Highneſs, which is a Title given her becauſe ſhe is the Daughter of a King's Brother, is extremely gracious and civil to all Mankind, but particularly to thoſe whom ſhe knew at the Court of *Pruſſia*. She does me the Honour to diſcourſe with me ſometimes. I find ſhe thinks very juſtly, and that her Sentiments are very agreeable to her Birth. This Princeſs is of the *Calviniſt* Religion, and ſhe keeps a Chaplain who preaches to her in her own Apartment; ſo that now while the Prince *Alex-*

* He dy'd at *Ludwigsbourg* the 23d of *Nov.* 1731.

Alexander de Wirtemberg is here, there are three Chapels in the Caſtle of as many different Religions.

The Couneſs *de Wurben* is the firſt Lady at Court next to her Royal Highneſs. She has been the Duke's ſole Favourite for a long time. She is *Gravenitz* by Name, and is deſcended of a noble Family in *Mecklembourg*. The Duke firſt fell in love with her when ſhe was but a Girl. She had the Aſſurance after ſhe had been ſome Years in Favour to inſiſt that the Duke ſhould get a Divorce from the Ducheſs his Wife, by whom he had a Son, and marry her. When the Ducheſs was inform'd of her Rival's Demand ſhe ſued for the Emperor's Protection, and obtain'd it. That Monarch ſignified to the Duke that he would do well to remove his Favourite, who was therefore oblig'd to retire to *Swiſſerland*. The Duke who could not bear her out of his Sight, followed her thither and ſtay'd there with her for ſome time, but at laſt being oblig'd to return to his Dominions, and not being able to take Madamoiſelle *de Gravenitz* to him without reviving the juſt Suſpicions of the Ducheſs, he look'd out for a Huſband for his Miſtreſs. The Count *de Wurben* a Gentleman of a good Family, and in mean Circumſtances, but a very eager Stickler for the Favours of Fortune at any rate whatſoever, made an offer to marry Madamoiſelle *de Gravenitz*. She was beſtowed upon him with a Penſion of 24000 Florins, and the Character of the Duke's Envoy Extraordinary to the Imperial Court. He engag'd never to make uſe of the Huſband's Prerogative and never to require of his Wife to leave the Court. Upon this Condition he obtain'd even before he ſet out for *Vienna* the Office of *Landthoffmeiſter* or Lord Lieutenant of *Wirtemberg*, which is the higheſt Dignity in the Country. When the Marriage was concluded, Madam *de Wurben* returned to *Stutgard*, where ſhe had

had Lodgings in the Palace. All her Aim was to inſult the Ducheſs, in hopes of provoking her to commit ſomething ſo outragious as might embroil her with the Duke, and make him reſolve never to forgive her; but this Princeſs equally virtuous and prudent, and always patient, bore all this Mortification without murmuring. The Miſtreſs, who could not endure to ſee her in the Palace, obtain'd an Order from the Duke for her Retirement to the Eſtate which was ſettled on her for her Jointure; but the Ducheſs would never comply to it, ſaying, that if ſhe had not been unfortunate enough in the Loſs of her Huſband ſhe would not retire to her Jointure. This Refuſal, how reaſonable ſoever it was, affronted the Duke who acquainted the Ducheſs that he did not look upon her any longer as his Wife, and gave orders that ſhe ſhould be treated no longer as a Sovereign. During this, Madam *de Wurben* became a Widow; whereupon all the Hopes reviv'd that ſhe had preſumed to entertain when a Maid. She perſuaded the Duke to leave *Stutgard*, and to found *Ludwigſbourg*. As ſoon as this Houſe was in a Condition to be occupy'd the Duke and his Miſtreſs came and liv'd in it. There's no ſort of Intrigue which this Favourite has not try'd to put herſelf in the Ducheſs's Rank, but hitherto ſhe has not been able to ſucceed. Mean while ſhe enjoys all the Honours of a Sovereign. 'Tis at her Apartments that the Court is kept. Whenever the Duke plays 'tis there, and there it is he diets. In ſhort ſhe is treated in every thing upon a par with her Royal Highneſs. Her Excellency (which is the only Title given to this imperious Favourite ſince the Death of her Huſband) is drawing on to fifty Years of Age, and yet carries a mighty Sway. She employs all the Remedies imaginable to cancel the Injuries which Time has done to her Complexion, and alſo to conceal her natural Temper; for Artifice

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and Diſſimulation are the Compounds of her Character. She is ſo eager in amaſſing of Riches that ſhe makes it her chief Buſineſs. While ſhe pretends a mighty Reſpect for the Duke, ſhe expects like another *Aſtarte* that every Knee ſhould bend and tremble before her. As ſhe is the Reſervoir of Favour, greater Court is made to her than to the Duke himſelf, and Woe be to thoſe that dare to diſoblige her! I muſt own however that ſhe knows how to behave as well as any Woman in *Germany*, when ſhe has a mind to ſhew her Politeneſs. The worſt on't is that ſhe is not always ſo inclin'd; for ſhe has been ſo long us'd to give herſelf great Airs that they are become habitual to her. The principal Offices of the Court are diſtributed among her Kindred or Creatures. Her Brother the Count *de Gravenitz* is Grand Marſhal and Prime Miniſter. I hardly ever ſaw a handſomer Man: I muſt alſo do him the juſtice to declare that he is as civil as his Siſter is haughty. Some Years ago the Duke obtain'd for him the Dignity of a Count of the Empire, in which Quality he was admitted alſo at the Dyet, and he has a Seat there on the Bench of the Counts of *Swabia*. His Authority is never oppos'd but by his Siſter, to whom he will not always be obedient. 'Tis ſaid their Diviſions have ſometimes gone ſo far that the Favourite has done all in her power to turn out her Brother, and he has try'd all Ways in his turn to remove his Siſter, but the Duke has always been ſo good as to reconcile them. The Prime Miniſter and his eldeſt Son are honour'd with the Order of *Pruſſia*. There is no Court in *Europe* where there's ſuch a Variety of Orders and Ribbons. The Duke bears alternatively the *Daniſh* Order of the *Elephant*, the *Pruſſian* Order of the *Black Eagle*, and his own Order which is that of St. *Hubert*.

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The Hereditary Prince has the Order of *Pruſſia* and that of the Duke his Father.

The Prince *Charles-Alexander* wears the *Fleece*, and the Order of *Wirtemberg**. Prince *Lewis* his Brother wears the *Poliſh* Order of the *White Eagle*.

The Baron *de Schunck* heretofore the Duke's Miniſter of State, and at preſent Great Bailiff of a Bailywic, is Knight of the Order of *Dannebrog*.

I ſhould never have done were I to give you the Names of all the Knights of the Order of St. *Hubert*; and the many petty Sovereigns that have been the Grand Maſters.

The Duke's particular or Cabinet-Council is compos'd of the Hereditary Prince and the Counts *de Gravenitz*, Father and Son, the Baron *de Schutz*, and M. *de Pollnitz* †. There are many other Counſellors of State, but not being admitted to the Cabinet-Council they are not in ſo much Eſteem as the others.

His moſt Serene Highneſs keeps the Eſtimate of his Forces to himſelf. I think that he has now 4000 Men without reckoning his Life-Guards, which are two Companies, the fineſt of all the Guards in *Germany*. One of theſe Companies is commanded by the Lieutenant-General Baron *de Phul*, and the other by a Count of *Witgenſtein*. They are dreſs'd in yellow, and are only diſtinguiſh'd by the Facing of their Clothes and their Bandeliers, one

* He was Velt-Marſhal of the Emperor's Forces, and Governor of *Servia* and *Belgrade*. He is one of the famous Generals of our Age, on whom Prince *Eugene* ſet a great Value. When he came to the Succeſſion he obtain'd of the Diet of the Empire the Poſt of Velt-Marſhal General jointly with the Duke of *Brunſwic-Bevern* and the Prince of *Anhalt*. He marry'd *Mary-Auguſta* of *Tour Taxis*, by whom he has Children. He has two Brothers in the Emperor's Service, *viz.* Prince *Frederic*, and Prince *Lewis*, who diſtinguiſh'd themſelves in the laſt War upon the *Rhine*.

† M. *de Pollnitz* left the Court in 1732, and is ſince retir'd to his Lands in *Saxony*.

one of which is Black and the other Red. Their Regimental Clothes are Yellow with Silver Lace. The Duke has alſo a Company of Cadets on Horſe-back, all Gentlemen. They are dreſs'd in Red, with black Velvet Facings and Silver Lace. They mount Guard at the Duke's Apartment only. Two of them always ſtand Centry before his Highneſs's Chamber-Door.

The Court of *Wirtemberg* is one of the moſt numerous in *Germany*.

There's a Grand Marſhal, who as I have told you is the Count *de Gravenitz*, Brother to the Favourite.

A Marſhal of the Court, who is ſecond Son to the Grand Marſhal.

A Travelling Marſhal, who is Brother-in-law to the Prime Miniſter.

A Great Cup-bearer, who is the Baron *de Frankenberg*.

A Maſter of the Horſe.

A Great Huntſman.

Four Chamberlains.

A Number of Gentlemen of the Bed-Chamber, and Gentlemen of the Court.

Two Captains of the Guards.

A conſiderable number of Counſellors of State and Aulic Counſellors.

Twenty Pages, all Men of good Families.

And finally a great many Footmen, and Officers of the Kitchen, Pantry, and Buttery.

The Duke's Stables are the beſt furniſh'd of any in *Europe*. One ſhall not ſee finer Horſes, or any that are better manag'd. The Hunting Equipage is alſo very magnificent; and I don't know one thing that is wanting. His Highneſs keeps a Company of *French* Comedians to whoſe Performance every body is admitted *gratis*. We have often Balls, Maſquerades, and Concerts of Muſic. There

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is an Aſſembly at the Favourite's Houſe every day, where the Company plays at Piquet, Quadrille, and Pharo; ſo that here are all the Pleaſures of a great Court. The Duke's Table is ſerv'd with very great Coſt and Delicacy, and is commonly ſpread for ſixteen Gueſts. The Duke ſits at the upper end, between her Royal Highneſs and her Excellency. The Gentlemen are plac'd according to the Rank which they derive from their Employments, and the Ladies according to the Offices which are borne by the Huſbands.

There's a Ceremonial obſerv'd here which is not known in any other Court, *viz.* the Duke's Miniſters give place to no Foreigner, unleſs he be a Miniſter like themſelves to ſome Prince, or unleſs he be a Count of the Empire. Theſe have ſo diſtinguiſh'd a Rank at this Court that all who are not Counts muſt give place to them. A Count of the Empire, tho' he be a Cadet in the hundredth Generation, a Lieutenant or an Enſign, as it ſometimes happens, in the Duke's Service, takes place of all Miniſters and great Officers who are not Counts. This is a Regulation which her Excellency made after her Brother was created a Count, to the end that her Family might have the more Honour, and that the greater Reſpect might be paid to her own Dignity of Counteſs without a County.

I have told you that the Duke had transferr'd his Reſidence from *Stutgard* to *Ludwigſbourg*, and the reaſon which made him abandon the Capital of his Dominions; but why he preferr'd the Scituation of his new Town to a hundred others that he might have choſe more agreeable, is what I cannot account for.

LUDWIGSBOURG is remote from any River, great Roads and Foreſts. The Duke at firſt only built a ſmall Manſion-Houſe with two advanced Wings, ſo diſpoſed that the Court lay between the Houſe and the Garden; but he has ſince made great Additions

ditions to it, and is actually building a large Manſion between the Court and the Garden, to which the Wings of the former Building are to be joined. One *Friſoni*, an *Italian*, has the Direction of theſe Works; in which it appears that he is a much better Maſon than an Architect. The new Building runs ſo far out that it diſcovers all the Effects of it. The Front of the Manſion conſiſts of three Stories, including the Ground-Floor; but on the Garden ſide there are only two of a moderate Height, ſo that one wou'd take this Building rather for an Orangerie than for the Palace of a Sovereign. The great Stair-caſe is dark, the Apartments want Light, the Chambers are long and narrow, and have very few Out-lets. However, this ſingle Building was undertaken by *Friſoni* for 700000 Florins, excluſive of ſeveral ſorts of Materials with which he was furniſhed.

The old Manſion, which fronts the new, is not near ſo large, tho' it is three Stories high every way. The Apartments are ſmall and too inconvenient to live in, yet no Coſt has been ſpar'd to adorn them; Carving, Gilding, and Painting being employ'd in them with more Profuſion than Judgment. The Furniture is rich, but of a very odd Fancy. The beſt thing in all the Palace is the Chapel, which would every where be reckon'd a fine noble Structure. But notwithſtanding all the Faults which are obſerv'd in the Palace, it muſt be allow'd that whoever lives to ſee it finiſh'd will find it a magnificent Piece of Work. In the Gardens there are ſeveral Terraſſes, which riſing by degrees one above another, intirely bound the Proſpect of the Palace. 'Tis certain that when the Duke's Architects ſaw this Prince reſolutely determin'd to build at *Ludwigſbourg*, they ought at leaſt to have adviſ'd him to place his Palace at the very Spot where his Gardens end: In this caſe it would have ſtood in the middle of a Plain, the Apartments would not have been cramp'd by the

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Buttreſſes, with which the Palace is encompaſs'd, and the Gardens wou'd have had a gentle Deſcent; and for a very little Expence there might have been a fine Piece of Water at one end, betwixt them and a Coppice, which is a Walk for Pheaſants.

The City of *Ludwigſbourg* is as irregular as the Palace; and its Scituation, which is very diſadvantageous, will always render it a very incommodious Town, becauſe of the unevenneſs of the Ground. Moſt of the Houſes are of Timber, and ſlightly built; for thoſe who build them do it with an Ill-will, either out of Neceſſity, or to pleaſe the Duke who ſeems to be fond of building. This Prince has ruin'd *Stutgard*, and will never make a good Town of *Ludwigſbourg*; for if the Court was abſent from it but one Year, 'twou'd be one of the meaneſt Villages in *Wirtemberg*. This Town is in no reſpect very agreeable. The Nobility here don't ſeem very fond of Strangers, and there are no Entertainments but what are made by the Duke. No body here, not even the Prime Miniſter keeps a Table; and all the Expence of the Courtiers is in their Dreſs, and their Horſes. Yet there is not a Prince of the Empire who gives handſomer Salaries, except the Electors; ſo that the Caſe is the very reverſe here to what it is at almoſt all other Courts, for here People grow rich, whereas elſewhere they are beggar'd. I have known Perſons that came to this Court in mean Circumſtances, and in a few Years got Eſtates. The Duke is by nature generous and beneficent, and wou'd be more ſo if his Liberality was not curb'd. He has given ſeveral Gentlemen Materials for building *gratis*; and the Houſes were no ſooner up but he purchas'd them, and paid as dear for 'em as if he had not contributed a Shilling towards raiſing them. I have been aſſur'd that his moſt Serene Highneſs's Revenues amounted to four Millions of Florins. 'Tis certain that he is

Maſter of one of the fineſt Countries in all *Germany*; a Country which has plenty of every thing, but Money is ſcarce by reaſon of the Fertility of the neighbouring Provinces, *viz.* the *Palatinate*, *Bavaria*, *Franconia*, and *Alſace*. The People are deſirous of a War upon the Upper *Rhine*, in hopes of putting off their Commodities.

The *Lutheran* is the only Religion tolerated in the Duchy of *Wirtemberg*, tho' the Duke has permitted *Friſoni* the Director of his Buildings to erect a Chapel for the Uſe of the Catholic Workmen whom he has ſent for from *Italy* to build the Palace; which Chapel however is deſign'd to be demoliſh'd as ſoon as the Works are finiſh'd: But I am rather inclin'd to think that the Court itſelf will one day have a Catholic Chapel; for if the hereditary Prince ſhou'd happen to die without Male-Iſſue, *Wirtemberg* will fall to the Share of Prince *Alexander*, (Couſin-german to the Duke) who has embraced our Religion; and who having Children by the Princeſs of *Tour* and *Taxis* whom he marry'd at *Bruſſels*, ſees them brought up in the Catholic Faith.

I kiſs your hand, and am, &c.

POSTSCRIPT.

Since I wrote the above, the Counteſs *de Wurben* is fallen under Diſgrace, which I have been told happen'd by this means.

The Duke's Carriage to his Miſtreſs had been cold for ſome time, when the King of *Pruſſia* came to *Ludwigſbourg* and exhorted him to be reconcil'd to his Wife, in order to get Heirs. The Duke cou'd not perſuade himſelf to take the Ducheſs again; but however the King's Repreſentations prevail'd ſo far as to put him quite out of conceit with his Miſtreſs. He juſt kept up a bare Acquaintance with her, and that was all; which ſhe

perceiv'd, and made no ſcruple to try the moſt extraordinary Methods to maintain herſelf in Favour. The Duke having been blooded in her Preſence, ſhe ſecreted a Napkin ſtain'd with his Blood. What Uſe ſhe propos'd to make of it I know not, but ſhe carry'd it to her Apartment. The Duke's *Valets de Chambre* miſſing the Napkin acquainted their Maſter of it. M. *de Roder*, a Gentleman of the Bed-Chamber, and a Favourite of his Highneſs, ſaid that no body cou'd poſſibly take it but the Counteſs, and that to be ſure ſhe did it for no good. The Duke order'd M. *de Roder* to go to the Counteſs's Apartment and enquire into the Fact. *Roder* aſk'd for the Napkin. The Counteſs deny'd her having it; but *Roder* affirmed he ſaw her take it, upon which ſhe was in a Paſſion with him, and told him ſhe wou'd make him repent of his Ill-manners to her. *Roder* made anſwer, that all the Airs ſhe gave herſelf were out of Seaſon, that her Reign was over, and that he wou'd oblige her to return the Napkin. The Counteſs not us'd to be talk'd to at ſuch a rate, was frighten'd, and reſtor'd the fatal Napkin, which completed her Ruin. The Duke, when inform'd by his Favourite of what had paſs'd, ſent an Order to the Counteſs not to ſtir from her Apartment: And this Prince ſetting out ſoon after for *Berlin*, charg'd the hereditary Prince his Son to command Madamoiſelle *de Wurben* to retire to her Eſtate. The Counteſs obey'd, and being indulg'd to carry what ſhe had a mind to along with her, retir'd to a Territory of hers depending immediately on the Empire, not many Leagues from *Ludwigſbourg*. There it was that ſhe heard of the Duke's Reconciliation with the Ducheſs, upon the Duke's return from *Berlin*. This News extremely ſhock'd her, becauſe ſhe always flatter'd herſelf that the Prince wou'd return to her: And perceiving now that ſhe had no Hopes of being re-

ſtor'd to Favour by the power of her own Charms, ſhe had a mind to try what ſhe cou'd do by I know not what Charm in the Magic Art. To carry her Point ſhe was under a neceſſity of having a little of the Duke's Blood; and ſhe wrote to his *Valet de Chambre*, promiſing him great Rewards if he cou'd procure her ſome. What does the Domeſtic but carry the Letter to the Duke? who immediately gave Orders to Colonel *Streithorſt* to arreſt the Counteſs, and carry her to ſome Place of Security. The Colonel taking a Detachment of Soldiers along with him, contriv'd it ſo that he came to the Counteſs's Seat at Night, and immediately ſurrounding the Houſe, knock'd at the Gate, but no body making anſwer he thunder'd ſo hard at the Gate, that at length Madame *de Sultman* the Counteſs's Siſter put her Head out at the Window, and aſk'd who it was that dar'd to make ſuch a Noiſe. *Streithorſt* told her his Name, and ſaid he came thither by Order of the Duke. Madame *de Sultman* made anſwer that the Counteſs was not well, and cou'd not be ſpoke with. The Colonel, who knew the contrary, ſaid, that if they did not let him in he wou'd break open the Doors; upon which they thought fit to open them. During this the Counteſs was got to Bed; and *Streithorſt* entring her Chamber found her there with her Siſter and her two Brothers-in-law, the General *N.*. and *Sultman*, who was formerly at *Berlin* Equerry to the Counteſs of *Wartenberg*, and afterwards Privy-Counſellor to the Duke of *Wirtemberg*. The Colonel having ſignify'd his Order to the Counteſs, ſhe affected to be in a dying Condition; but ſaid that if ſhe was able enough to get up ſhe did not intend it, ſhe being at home, and in a free Houſe of the Circle of *Swabia*, from whence ſhe did not think the Duke had Authority to remove her. The Colonel threaten'd that his Grenadiers ſhou'd pull her out of Bed; and the Lady ſeeing that ſhe muſt obey, thought

thought fit to riſe. She fell on her Knees to *Streithorſt*; but the hard-hearted Officer was deaf to her Cries, and conducted her to a place of Security where ſhe is cloſely confin'd, and like to be a Priſoner as long as the Duke lives.

LETTER XVII.

SIR, *Carlſrouhe, Feb.* 15, 1730.

I Deny that any Man can be happier than I am at this Juncture. You have wrote an excellent long Letter to me; you aſſure me that you are well, and that you have ſtill an Affection for me; what more is there wanting to compleat my Joy? I am preparing to make you the beſt amends I can, and inſtead of a Letter to write you a Volume.

I came in one Day from *Ludwigſbourg* to CARLSROUHE, which is the Reſidence of the Margrave of *Baden-Dourlach*. The Name *Carlſrouhe* ſignifies *Charles*'s Reſt. The preſent Margrave *Charles* of *Baden-Dourlach* was the very Man that laid both the Plan and Foundation of this City, and its Caſtle. Nothing is ſo pretty as the Diſpoſition of the whole: I wiſh I were able to give you an Idea of it. Imagine the Margrave's Houſe to be at the Entrance of a great Foreſt, in the Center of a Star form'd by thirty two Walks, the chief of which behind the Palace is three *German* Leagues in length. Two large Wings advance from the main

Body of the Houſe, which deviating from each other in proportion as they lengthen, the whole together looks like a Theatre. Behind the principal Building there's a very high Octogon Tower which commands all the Walks. The Space between the two Wings forms the Court, and then come the Gardens and Parterres, at the end of which there's a Semi-Circle of Houſes of an equal Height, built Arch-wiſe, and three Stories high including the Ground-Floor. Between theſe Houſes there run five Streets, the middlemoſt of which fronts the Palace. At the end of the three chief Streets oppoſite to the Palace are three Churches; one belonging to the *Lutherans*, another to the *Calviniſts*, and a third to the *Roman* Catholics; to which three prevailing Religions of the Empire the Margrave gave equal Liberty of Conſcience when he founded the new Town.

The chief part of the Town lies behind the Houſes that front the Palace. This properly ſpeaking conſiſts but of one Street, which is of a prodigious Length. All theſe Houſes as well as the Margrave's are of Timber, ſo that you are not to look for fine or ſubſtantial Buildings at *Carlſrouhe*; but the Contrivance and Diſtribution of the whole taken together is really wonderful. I took the Freedom to tell the Margrave that I was ſurpriz'd that he had not at leaſt employ'd Brick in the building of his Palace, and of the Houſes which form the Half-Moon about his Gardens. 'I was 'willing, *ſaid the Prince*, to make myſelf a Place 'of Retirement, and to build without putting the 'Burthen on my Subjects. I choſe moreover to 'have the Comfort of enjoying what I built. If I 'had us'd Bricks it wou'd have coſt me a great deal 'more Money; and I cou'd not have finiſh'd my 'Buildings without laying an extraordinary Impoſt 'upon my Country. It wou'd have taken me up 'abun-

'abundance of Time too, and perhaps I ſhou'd ne-
'ver have had the Satisfaction of ſeeing an end to
'my Labours. Another Reaſon was, that my
'Country is ſo ſcituate as to be liable to be the
'Theatre of Wars, and I am not in a Condition
'to make this a ſtrong Place, nor cou'd I en-
'compaſs it with Walls. Do you think there-
'fore that I ſhou'd have been juſtified in laying out
'a great deal of Money on a Place to ſee it burnt
'down before my Face, as I did my Houſe at
'*Dourlach*, and my other Houſes which the
'*French* reduc'd to Aſhes. I am but a petty So-
'vereign; I have built a Houſe according to my
'Condition, and I had rather it ſhou'd be ſaid of
'me that I have but a mean Habitation, and
'owe no Money, than that I have a ſtately Pa-
'lace and am over Head and Ears in Debt.'

I have given you this account of what the Margrave ſaid to me, becauſe I thought it wou'd let you into an Idea of his Character. This Prince, to whom I was introduc'd on the very day of my Arrival here, took the Trouble himſelf to ſhew me his Palace, and all about it. I thought the Apartments very well laid out, but there is not room enough to lodge the hereditary Prince, who lives in one of the Houſes in the Semi-Circle fronting the Palace.

The Pheaſant-Walk, which joins to the Caſtle, is the prettieſt thing in the World. 'Tis a very large Incloſure, diſpos'd in various Walks planted with Fir-Trees cut in the ſhape of a Fan. There's a great Baſin in the Center always full of wild Ducks. 'Tis encompaſs'd with four Pavilions, made in the Form of *Turkiſh* Tents. Two of the Pavilions are Volarys, and the two others Summer-Houſes, with Window-Curtains of Green Cloth. There are Sofas and Couches, after the manner of the Eaſtern Countries. In this Place of Retirement and Reſt

the Margrave ſpends ſome Hours every Day, and he is generally accompany'd by ſome young Ladies whom he teaches Muſic; ſo that they perform agreeable Concerts.

The Margrave was in the right to give his Houſe the Name of *Charles's Reſt*, for he leads the moſt tranquil Life here that can be. Far from being infatuated with vain Grandeur, he has the Charms of it, without the Check and Conſtraint of it. This Prince is of a very robuſt Conſtitution, and tho' he underwent a vaſt deal of Fatigue in his Youth, he is as freſh-colour'd and as vigorous as if he was but forty Years of Age. He travell'd when he was a young Man into the principal parts of *Europe*; and during his Father's Life-time was ſeveral Years in the Service of *Sweden*. When he return'd to his Dominions he ſerv'd in the Army of the Empire on the Upper *Rhine*, under his Couſin Prince *Lewis* of *Baden*. Tho' the Margrave is very fat, yet he uſes a great deal of Exerciſe. He riſes in Summer at five o' Clock in the Morning, and walks in his Gardens till the Heat of the Weather obliges him to retire within Doors; then he does Buſineſs with his Counſellors, or elſe employs himſelf in Experiments of Chymiſtry, and ſometimes he draws. He commonly dines at four o' clock, and is attended by Waiting-Women, of whom there are no leſs than threeſcore, tho' no more than eight wait upon one Day. Theſe, when the Margrave goes abroad, attend him on Horſeback, dreſs'd like *Huſſars*. The Generality of theſe Damſels underſtand Muſic and Dancing; they alſo perform Operas at the Theatre of the Palace, and are Muſicians of the Chappel. They have all Lodgings in the Palace. After Dinner is over the Margrave grants Audience to his Subjects; and upon particular Days of the Week hears all that come. Few Princes render Juſtice more ſpeedily, and more punctually. Sometimes he goes a Hunting.

ing. He makes very light Suppers, and retires early to Bed. He delights in Agriculture, and is one of the greateſt Floriſts living. This Prince is never unemploy'd. There are few things which he does not know, and very many which he underſtands to Perfection. His Converſation is as agreeable as any I know. He ſpeaks ſeveral Languages well. His Behaviour is obliging and courteous. He loves Foreigners, treats them with Diſtinction, and loads them with Civilities. Upon Sundays and Holidays he eats with the Prince his Son, and the Princeſs his Daughter-in-law. His Table, which is then ſpread for ſixteen Gueſts, is ſerv'd with more Delicacy than Profuſion.

The hereditary Prince *, only Son to the Margrave, is pretty ſhort, and has not the Life and Spirit of his Father. He is very complaiſant and civil, and ſeems to me of a good-natur'd Diſpoſition. He has been at *Paris*, in *England*, and in *Holland*, where he marry'd the Daughter of the unfortunate Prince of *Naſſau*, who was drown'd in 1711, as he was paſſing the *Maerdyke* to the *Hague*, to adjuſt with *Frederic* I. King of *Pruſſia*, ſuch Differences as related to the Succeſſion of the late King *William* of *Great Britain*, to which they both laid Claim.' The hereditary Princeſs ſeems to me to be well behav'd; and ſhe makes very handſome Entertainments. The Court aſſembles at her Houſe every day, *viz.* at Noon, and at five o'clock in the Evening; and there they dine, game, and ſup. Foreigners are very well receiv'd there, and both the Ladies and Gentlemen are very civil and complaiſant.

The Grand Marſhal, and his Brother the Great Huntſman, are Perſons capable of making a Figure with Diſtinction in the greateſt Courts. The

* This Prince dy'd the beginning of the Year 1732, and left one Son.

The firſt marry'd a legitimated Daughter of the Margrave.

The Baron *d' Ixter*, Preſident of the Regency, and Chief of the Council, is a Perſon of ſignal Merit, and capable of any Buſineſs, be it ever ſo great.

Generally ſpeaking the Margrave's Court is extremely well regulated. This Prince is fond of the Nobility, and ſeeks to do them a Pleaſure. He has none but Perſons of Quality in his Service. 'Tis great Pity that this Court does not come together again. The Margravine, who is Siſter to the Duke of *Wirtemberg*, reſides at *Dourlach*, and never comes to *Carlſrouhe* but when 'tis a Holiday, or when ſome foreign Prince is there. This Princeſs is actually very much indiſpos'd, ſo that I don't think I ſhall have the Honour of kiſſing her Hand. The Margrave alſo educates at his Court three young Princes his Nephews, the Sons of his Brother. They are under the Government of the Baron *de Gemming*, who takes very great Care of their Education.

As to the Margrave's Revenues, I cannot be poſitive what they are, becauſe I found that People who ought to know beſt, vary in their Calculations not a little; ſome aſſur'd me they were 400,000, ſome 500,000 Florins, and others much more. Be it as it will, 'tis certain that the Margrave lives nobly, that every body is well paid, and that the Subjects are not over-burthen'd. Farewell, Sir, I ſet out to-morrow for *Raſtadt*, and ſhall write to you as ſoon as I can, *&c.*

LET-

LETTER XVIII.

SIR, *Straſbourg, Feb.* 28, 1730.

IT took me up no more than four Hours to go from *Carlſrouhe* to RASTADT. As ſoon as I alighted there I notified my Arrival to the Grand Marſhal, with a Requeſt that he wou'd procure me the Honour of paying my Compliments to their Highneſſes of *Baden-Baden*. I had for anſwer, that the Margrave was out a Hunting, and that therefore I cou'd not have an Audience before next day. I had patience to ſtay; and having by Good-luck ſome Books at hand, I ſpent all that day in Reading, and the next day too, but did not hear a Word from the Grand Marſhal. Mean time as I did not come to *Raſtadt* purely to read, and as 'tis a Town does not afford much Amuſement, ſince a quarter of an hour is enough to know all the Streets, I was very chagrin. I ſent a ſecond Meſſage to the Grand Marſhal, but had the ſame Anſwer as before. I thought it improper to inſiſt any farther, and gave over all hopes of ſeeing the Court of *Raſtadt*. However I went to ſee the Margrave's Palace, which his Father the late Prince *Lewis* of *Baden* built from the Ground. It is very much like to the Palace of *St. Cloud* near *Paris*, and ſeems to be a Building conducted with more Reguularity than I obſerv'd in ſeveral new Houſes in *Germany* left ſolely to the Direction of ignorant Maſons, who without a Taſte for Building have the Aſſurance to call themſelves Architects.

The

The principal Stair-Caſe is large and lightſome. The Apartments have all the Conveniencies they can admit of. Thoſe which are contiguous to the grand Stair-Caſe are diſtributed into ſeveral Partitions, for Shew and for Conveniency. They are painted, gilt, and gaily furniſh'd. The Margravine Dowager to Prince *Lewis* put them in this Condition againſt the Marriage of her Daughter to the Duke of *Orleans*; and the Furniture is indeed rich and well fancy'd. The Keeper ſhewed me the Cloſet in which Prince *Eugene* of *Savoy* and Marſhal *Villars* ſign'd the Peace in 1714. 'Tis pity that this truly magnificent Palace has no Gardens to it. There's Ground mark'd out for that purpoſe, and if Prince *Lewis* had liv'd they wou'd have been finiſh'd.

After having ſeen the Apartments and the Chapel, which is ſmall, but exceedingly adorn'd, not knowing what to do with myſelf I went to a Billiard-Table fronting the Palace, where I found ſome Gentlemen of the Court as idle as myſelf. They treated me as a Foreigner, and were complaiſant to me. A young Fellow of a good Appearance, and who ſeem'd to have an Air of Politeneſs, having refus'd as well as myſelf to play, enter'd into a Converſation with me: And by degrees that Sympathy of our Tempers, which was a Stranger to the Laws of Reaſon, made us talk to one another with as much Freedom as if we had been old Acquaintance. I complain'd to him that tho' I had been three days at *Raſtadt* I cou'd not get an Opportunity of paying my Duty to their Highneſſes of *Baden*. He told me that I need not be ſurpriz'd at it; that ſince the Death of the late Prince *Lewis*, the Margravine his Dowager, who was hereditary Princeſs of *Saxe-Lawenbourg*, had introduc'd into her Court the Ceremonial of the Eaſtern Princes; that ſhe never appear'd but in a full Divan,

and

and that ſhe did not permit any one whatſoever to come near to her Son except the Baſhaws and Dervizes who were of the Council. The young Gentleman's manner of accounting for this matter made me ſmile, and put me upon aſking him ſeveral Queſtions. 'How! *ſaid I*, according to 'the Character I have had of the Margravine, ſhe is 'very much of a Chriſtian, and of that virtuous 'Heroine which the wiſe Man, if he had been ſtill 'living, wou'd have propos'd to us for a Model. 'Indeed, *ſaid the Gentleman*, the Character you 'have had of her is right enough: The Margravine 'has Piety and Virtues that render her valuable; 'but ſhe has a Haughtineſs, and a certain *Particu-* '*larity* in her Temper, which is hardly to be pa-'rallell'd. For inſtance, if ſhe had receiv'd you it 'wou'd have been ſtanding under a Canopy by an 'Arm-Chair, with as much State as the Empreſs. 'She wou'd have aſk'd you two or three Queſtions, 'after which ſhe wou'd have aſſur'd you of her 'Protection, and then have diſmiſs'd you without 'detaining you to dine with her, as is the manner 'of all the Princes of the Empire; but 'tis not the 'faſhion here, *continued the Gentleman*. The Mar-'gravine commonly dines in private, and we who 'are of her Court don't ſee her but at Maſs. The 'young Margrave our Maſter wou'd like well 'enough to ſee Company, but his Mother giving 'him to underſtand that ſhe does not care for it, 'he conforms to her Pleaſure. The young Mar-'gravine, who is the Daughter of the Prince *de* '*Schwartzenbourg*, has no Authority, becauſe tho' 'naturally obliging and civil ſhe durſt not put her 'good Qualities in practice, becauſe the Margra-'vine Dowager reproaches her that ſhe does not 'know how to carry it like a Sovereign; by which 'means this poor Princeſs is oblig'd to be proud a-'gainſt her Inclination. If you were to ſee her

'you

'you wou'd be charm'd with her; for ſhe is tall and 'handſome, of a lively fair Complexion, but not 'languid, and has a very noble Air. When 'the Margrave marry'd her ſhe was an only 'Daughter, and the Princeſs of *Schwartzenbourg* 'her Mother, who had not lived with her Huſband 'for near fifteen Years, was not like to have any 'more Children. But the Event has proved con-'trary; for the Prince and Princeſs of *Schwartzen-'bourg* are reconcil'd, and the Princeſs has had a 'Son, who has fruſtrated the Hopes of our young 'Margravine of being ſome day or other one of 'the richeſt Heireſſes in the Empire. This has 'not advanc'd her in the Favour of her Mother-'in-law, who often ſnaps at her; but there being 'no Remedy, the young Princeſs bears her Ill-hu-'mours with Patience. As ſhe is juſt brought to 'bed too of a Son, we hope ſhe will have more In-'tereſt; at leaſt 'tis what we all wiſh, becauſe ſhe 'is a very good Princeſs. 'Tis not a Year, *con-'tinued the Gentleman*, that our young Margrave 'has been of Age, nevertheleſs his Majority is ſo 'controll'd by the Aſcendancy which the Dowager 'keeps over her Son, that it may be ſaid 'tis ſhe 'who governs ſtill. This Prince accuſtom'd to 'obey knows not what is the Pleaſure of com-'manding. There's the ſame likelihood of his 'being a Dependant as long as his Mother lives; 'and indeed he ought to humour that Princeſs, as 'well becauſe ſhe was always a good Mother to 'him, as for the Advantages ſhe is capable of doing 'him; for ſhe is very rich, and has a noble Eſtate 'in *Bohemia*, which ſhe wou'd perhaps give to her 'youngeſt Son, who is Canon of *Cologne* and *Augſ-'bourg*, if the Margrave diſobliged her; tho' I be-'lieve it muſt be a great Offence indeed that wou'd 'provoke her to diſinherit him, becauſe he was always 'her Darling, and perhaps too the moſt dutiful of

'all

'all her Children. Such is her Tenderneſs for this 'Son that when there was a Talk of his going 'abroad ſhe wou'd needs go with him; and ſhe 'actually accompany'd him all over *Italy*. Some 'People were indeed ſo ill-natur'd as to ſay that 'twas not out of Love to the Prince, but becauſe 'ſhe was afraid he wou'd wean himſelf from her 'Company, and break quite away from her. 'Tis 'ſaid however that ſhe is going to quit the Court, and 'to retire to *Etlingen*, which is the Place aſſign'd 'for her Jointure. We all wiſh it, not that we 'have any reaſon to complain of this Princeſs, but 'becauſe we hope then to have a gayer Court. 'For the reſt, to do the Margravine Dowager 'Juſtice, ſhe has manag'd her Son's Finances with 'a great deal of Oeconomy. When the late Prince '*Lewis* dy'd he left a heavy Debt upon the Coun-'try, which was alſo ruin'd by the late War. But 'the Margravine Regent has paid off all, and ſo 'happily retriev'd the Government and the Fi-'nances that when her Son came of Age ſhe gave 'him conſiderable Sums, and the Country was in a 'better Condition than ever.'

There the Gentleman concluded. After putting ſeveral Queſtions to him I learnt that the Ducheſs of *Orleans* had been promis'd in Marriage to Prince *Alexander* of *Tour* and *Taxis* *, that the Preſents were made for the Wedding, and that the ſame was very ſoon to be celebrated: But when the Duke of *Orleans* actually ſent M. *d'Argenſon* his Chancellor to *Raſtadt* to demand the Princeſs in Marriage, the Margravine her Mother thinking this a better Match beyond Compariſon, call'd back the Promiſe ſhe had made to the Prince *de la Tour*, and concluded the Treaty with the Duke of *Orleans*. The young Margrave marry'd his Siſter by Proxy, in pre-

* He has ſince marry'd a Princeſs of *Brandenbourg-Bareith*, who has embrac'd the Catholic Religion.

preſence of M. *d'Argenſon*, and the Princeſs was conducted to *Straſbourg*, where finding a Set of Domeſtics ſent from *Paris* to receive her, ſhe turn'd off all her *German* Servants and proceeded on her Journey to *Chalons*, whither the Duke of *Orleans* went to meet her.

The ſame Gentleman from whom I learnt all theſe Particulars told me likewiſe that the young Margrave, before he marry'd the Princeſs of *Schwartzenbourg*, was to have had the Daughter of King *Staniſlaus*, but that the Margravine broke off the Marriage-Treaty which was very far advanc'd, becauſe the King was not able to pay down a hundred thouſand Crowns ready Money for his Daughter's Dowry. It was undoubtedly owing to that Princeſs's happy Star that the King could not raiſe the Sum, for in ſuch caſe his Daughter would not now have worn one of the firſt Crowns in the World. The Gentleman told me moreover that the Margravine was mortify'd to the laſt degree when ſhe heard that the Princeſs whom ſhe had refus'd for her Daughter-in-law was become the Queen of *France*. She was apprehenſive too that this Princeſs or the King her Father would take revenge for the Slight ſhe had put upon their Alliance, and ſhe wrote a Letter to King *Staniſlaus* to congratulate him on an Event ſo glorious to him, and to recommend to him the Ducheſs of *Orleans* her Daughter. *I intreat you, Sir*, ſaid ſhe, *to prevail with the Queen your Daughter to honour my Daughter and all my Family with her Favour. I will preſume to ſay that both I and Mine deſerve it at your Hands for the Reſpect we have always had for you.* This Letter, which was as ſubmiſſive as the Margravine's Conduct had been haughty, was receiv'd with very great Civility by King *Staniſlaus*, who, after having read it to the Queen his Wife, could not help ſaying, *I am much oblig'd to the Mar-*

Margravine for this Letter, and he return'd her a very engaging Anſwer. 'Tis my Opinion that at that Time, inſtead of bearing the Princeſs any Ill-will he took it very kindly of her that ſhe had refus'd his Daughter for a Daughter-in-law. The officious Gentleman would perhaps have inform'd me of other Particulars concerning the Court of *Raſtadt*; if the Margrave's Return from Hunting had not oblig'd him to go to the Caſtle. I thank'd him for the Trouble he had given himſelf, and went and ſhut my ſelf up at my Quarters.

I ſet out next day for *Strasbourg*, and in leſs than five Hours arrived at KEHL. 'Tis all an even Country, and admirable Roads. We travel thro' the Dominions of *Spire*, the Biſhoprick of *Straſbourg*, and the County of *Hanau*. At *Kehl* I paid a Viſit to the General Baron *de Roth* the Governour of the Place, who entertain'd me at Dinner, and made me exceeding welcome, but ſo ply'd me with Liquor that I thought my ſelf at *Fulde* or *Wurtzbourg*. After Dinner M. *de Roth* ſhewed me the Fortifications which I found in a very bad State. The Commandant told me that he had taken a world of Pains to repreſent it to the Dyet of the Empire at *Ratiſbonne*, but that he might as well have talk'd to ſo many deaf Men. 'Tis certain that if Care be not taken, the *Rhine* will waſh away the Fort one day or other; and carry it to *Holland*. The Marſhal *de Bourg* ſaid to me a while ago when we were talking of *Kehl*, that M. *de Roth* would do well to faſten his Fort with Chains to the Citadel of *Straſbourg*.

There's only a Bridge over the *Rhine* to paſs from *Kehl* to STRASBOURG the Capital of *Alſace*, and formerly an Imperial City. The *French* made themſelves Maſters of it in *September* 1681, when they came to the very Gates of the Place before the Town had Notice of their March, and when it was

in no Condition to make reſiſtance; for whether they thought they had no need of being upon their Guard, or whether the Chief Burgomaſters had been corrupted, the Town wanted but every Thing. The Capitulation was ſigned on one ſide by the Marquis *de Louvois*, and the Baron *de Monclar* Commandant in *Alſace*; and on the other, by eight Deputies of the City, which was ſecured in all its Privileges, Prerogatives and Cuſtoms, both eccleſiaſtical and civil. The Biſhop was nevertheleſs reſtored to his See, and the Canons to the Cathedral, which had belonged for 152 Years to the *Lutherans*. *Lewis* XIV. made his entry into *Strasbourg* the 23d of *October* following, and immediately order'd a Citadel and other Works to be erected, which have ſince been ſo augmented that *Strasbourg* may now be rank'd among the moſt important Places of *Europe*. The Marſhal Count *de Bourg* commands in it, and has one of the King's Lieutenants under him, who is always a general Officer. M. *Dangervilliers** formerly Intendant of *Dauphiny*, is Intendant of the Province of *Alſace* and the City of *Strasbourg*. Theſe Gentlemen, whom I have been to ſee, receiv'd me with prodigious Civility, and very punctually return'd my Viſit.

The Marſhal Count *de Bourg* preſerves a ſtately Mien in an advanced Age, and one may eaſily perceive he has been a very fine Man in his Time. He was Page to *Philip* of *France* Duke of *Orleans*, Brother to *Lewis* the Great, and to that Duke's Favour his Advancement to Military Employments is very much owing, tho' 'tis true that he has diſtinguiſhed himſelf in the Service. On the 26th

* He was advanc'd to the Office of Secretary at War in the room of M. *le Blanc*, and was ſucceeded as Intendant of *Alſace* by M. *de Harlay*, formerly Intendant of *Metz*; and when the latter was made Intendant of *Paris* he was ſucceeded by M. *de Brou*.

26th of *Auguſt* 1709, he defeated near *Rumerſheim* the Count *de Mercy*, who commanded a flying Camp of 9000 Men detach'd from the Army of the Empire, then under Command of the Elector of *Hanover*; afterwards *George* I. King of *Great Britain*. This Victory gain'd M. *de Bourg* the blue Ribbon. King *Lewis* XV. gave him the Staff of a Marſhal of *France*, and confirmed him in the Government of *Strasbourg*. The *French* Officers accuſe this Marſhal of Pride, but for my part, I have all the Reaſon that can be to love him for his Civility.

M. *Dangervilliers* is really more engaging than the Marſhal, and is therefore more beloved by the Officers. He is affable and civil, complaiſant to Foreigners, and lives with a vaſt deal of Splendor. The Princes of the Empire that border upon *Alſace* like him very well, and think he is more candid, and leſs haughty than his Predeceſſors.

There's not many of the Nobility ſettled in this City, and of theſe few that are wealthy; and therefore they live very much retir'd. The Canons of the Great Chapter who ought all to be Princes or Counts, are not of very great Service, becauſe moſt of 'em holding other Benefices, only come to *Strasbourg* to paſs away three Months there of their Reſidence, and by conſequence they are here as Strangers. The beſt Houſes therefore are the Intendant's and the King's Lieutenant's. There are always a great many Officers here who are indeed amiable Fellows, and know how to ſerve, and to be good Company too upon occaſion. The Commandants of the Corps are in Years, and Officers of Experience, and the reſt are clever ſmart Youths who long ſadly to be fighting; and would fain make you believe the four Corners of the World will quickly be on fire. I have not ſeen finer Infantry than the *French* Infantry at this preſent time. There

are very fine Gentlemen too in the Cavalry, but then they are not near ſo well mounted as ours. You know the Cry with us is that the *French* are ruin'd, and not able to do any thing more. How the Caſe ſtands with them, I really know not, but if one may judge of it by Appearances, it cannot be ſo. No Troops were ever better cloathed, better paid, more ſpruce, nor finer. The Officers are ſplendid; they game, divert themſelves, and eat and drink well, which does not ſeem to me to be the Life of People in Want. Upon theſe Terms, I would be content to be in ſuch Want all my Life long.

The Garriſon maintains a Company of Comedians who are paid by the Captains, and commanding Officers, for the Subalterns are admitted gratis. The Theatre, which is one of the prettieſt in the Country, is maintain'd by the City.

A Man that has a Taſte for a plain home-bred Girl may here find Amuſement and good Blood. 'Tis obſerv'd that the *Lutheran* Women are the moſt beautiful, and the Sex at this Place is ſaid to be very indulgent, and very tractable; ſo that I ſhould be apt to think, a Man need not be very open-hearted to them.

Tho' *Strasbourg* may be reckon'd among the fineſt Towns in *France*, one can't ſay there's a ſingle Houſe in it that is magnificent, or makes a grand Appearance. The Cathedral is a very ſtately Building of *Gothic* Architecture; its famous Spire is one of the moſt lofty, and of the neateſt Workmanſhip of any in *Europe*. *Miſſon*, who 'tis like always carried his Plummet and Foot-Rule in his Pocket, becauſe he never fails to give the Length and Breadth and Height of a Thing, ſays that 'tis 574 Foot in height; and I believe he is not miſtaken. *Erkivin de Stembach* who was the Architect, finiſh'd it in the Year 1449. 'Tis ſaid that *Lewis* XIV. had a mind to have a Spire erected upon the ſecond

Tower which ſeems to have been built with that View. He order'd M. *de Vauban* to draw a Model of it, and to compute the Coſt, which he found would amount to ſeveral Millions of Livres. The King thinking that he could employ that Sum to a better purpoſe, contented himſelf with making a Preſent to the Cathedral of the Ornaments, and all the Prieſts Veſtments for celebrating Maſs upon the ſeveral annual Feſtivals; the whole of which is extraordinary ſumptuous, and becoming the Magnificence of one of the greateſt Kings in the World. 'Twas in the Cathedral of *Straſbourg* that the Duke of *Orleans* the firſt Prince of the Blood of *France* marry'd as Proxy to *Lewis* XV. *Mary Leſcinſki*, the Daughter of King *Staniſlaus*. This Ceremony, at which I was preſent, was more magnificent than what was obſerv'd at *Fontainbleau* at the Queen's Arrival; and the Concourſe of *German* Noblemen and Princes hither upon the Occaſion was prodigious. The Cardinal *de Rohan*, as Biſhop of *Strasbourg*, gave the Nuptial Benediction. Nothing can be finer than the Speeches which his Eminency made upon that Solemnity: As they fell into my hands, I think I ought to communicate them to you. You will find them *verbatim* at the End of this Letter. *Poland* in this Inſtance, made a worthy Reſtitution to *France*, which many Years ago gave the *Poles* a King who was afterwards the unfortunate *Henry* III; and they have now in their turn given a Queen to *France*. But *Germany* may boaſt that the Queen derives from the Empire that Fund of Virtue which is the Source of her Happineſs, and makes her admir'd by the Univerſe. *France* had for a long time left off ſending to our Climates for her Queens. *Mary-Anne Victoria* of *Bavaria* was in a fair way to be one, but ſhe dy'd a Dauphineſs *. *Lorrain*, *Scotland*, *Italy* and *Spain*, had

* The Wife of *Lewis* the Dauphin who was *Lewis* XIVth's only Son.

had as it were engroſs'd the Crown of *France* for their Princeſſes. But I hope the Virtues of the preſent Queen and the other *German* * Princeſſes who are now at the Court of *France* will oblige the *French* to confeſs that if our Princeſſes have not Crowns for their Dowries like the Infanta's of *Spain*, they have an Eſtate of more Value than all the Wealth in the World, *viz.* Piety, Charity, and Love for the People.

A great many young *German* Gentlemen come hither for the ſake of learning *French*, and their Exerciſes, but I don't think they are a jot the better for it, becauſe the Maſters of their Exerciſes are not better Scholars here than they are in many Towns of *Germany*; and as to the *French*, they ſpeak it very ill in this City; for the Inhabitants talk *High Dutch*, and our young Sparks are ſo pleas'd to hear their own Language ſpoke that they neglect to learn any other. Beſides they always herd together, and too eaſily catch one another's Vices as well as Virtues. As they have not many Parts to ſhew, they ſpend their Time at the Billiard-Table, the Coffee-Houſe, and often at other Places not ſo honeſt, of which there are but too many here, this being a City as noted for Libertines as any in *Europe*.

I am, &c.

The Speech of Cardinal de Rohan *to the* QUEEN, *before the Celebration of the Marriage.*

MADAME,

'WHILE I ſee you in this ſacred Temple approaching to our Altars to contract that illuſtrious Alliance which is to unite you to the greateſt of Kings and the moſt amiable of Princes, I 'adore

* The Ducheſs of *Orleans* who is of the *Baden* Family, and the Ducheſs of *Bourbon*.

'adore what God deſigns you for, and admire with
'Tranſport the Courſe that Providence is ſteering
'to conduct you to the Throne which you are go-
'ing to aſcend. You are deſcended, MADAME,
'from a Family illuſtrious for its Antiquity, for its
'Alliances, and for the eminent Employments which
'the great Men it has given to *Poland* have fill'd
'ſucceſſively with ſo much Glory. You are the
'Daughter of a Father, who, thro' the various E-
'vents of a buſy Life, chequer'd by good and bad
'Fortune, has always ſhewn himſelf the Gentleman,
'the Hero, and the Chriſtian. You have for your
'Mother, and your Grand-mother, Princeſſes, who
'like to *Judith*, and to that virtuous Woman whoſe
'Character is drawn in the Scriptures, have attracted
'the Veneration and Reſpect of the whole World,
'by the Fidelity with which they always walk'd in
'the Fear of the Lord. In your Perſon, MA-
'DAME, are center'd all the Accompliſhments that
'can be form'd by a happy Birth, and an admirable
'Education, ſupported by Examples equally ſtrong
'and affecting. In you, that Goodneſs, that Mild-
'neſs, and thoſe Charms are predominant, which
'gain Love at the ſame time as they inforce Re-
'ſpect; that Integrity of Heart which nothing can
'reſiſt; that Superiority of Underſtanding and
'Knowledge which are conſpicuous, as it were in
'ſpite of you, and in ſpite of that Modeſty and
'noble Simplicity which are natural to you; and
'finally that which is the Crown of ſo much Merit,
'that Taſte for Piety, and that Attachment to the
'true Principles of Religion, which animate your
'Actions, and regulate your Conduct. Adorn'd
'with all theſe Virtues, what Crown is there to which
'you might not reaſonably aſpire, excluſive of the
'Cuſtom which in ſome meaſure obliges Kings to look
'no farther than round the Throne for Princeſſes
'that they have a mind ſhould reign with them?

'He who diſpoſes of Empires puts the Sceptre of
'*Poland* into the Hands of a Prince to whom you
'owe your Being, and by giving the Father that
'Splendor conducts the Daughter inſenſibly to
'the ſublime Station he is preparing for her. But,
'O God, how impenetrable are thy Deſigns, and
'how far above human Prudence are the Means
'thou makeſt uſe of to bring about thy wiſe Pur-
'poſes! This Prince was ſcarce ſeated on the Throne
'in which the Choice of the Grandees, and the Af-
'fection of the People had plac'd him, but he was
'oblig'd to quit it: He is abandon'd, betray'd, per-
'ſecuted; one fatal Shot bereaves him of the Hero
'his Friend, and the chief Stay of his Hopes: He
'ſubmits to the Neceſſity of the Times without a-
'bating in his Courage: He ſeeks Refuge in a Coun-
'try which is the common Shelter of unfortunate
'Kings: He comes to *France*, and thither, MA-
'DAME, you are following him. All that ſee you
'there, touch'd with your Misfortunes, admire
'your Virtue, the Odour of which ſpreads to the
'Throne of a young Monarch, who, ſuch is
'the Luſtre of his Crown, the Extent of his Power,
'and above all, the Charms of his Perſon, might
'have made his choice out of all the Princeſſes of
'the World: But being guided by wiſe Counſels,
'he fixes it upon You; and here the Finger of God
'is plainly viſible in improving that very Misfor-
'tune which ſeparates the King your Father from
'his Subjects, and takes you out of *Poland* to give
'Us in your Perſon, a Queen who ſhall be the Glory
'of a Father and of a Mother, of whom ſhe is now
'the Comfort and Delight; a Queen, who ſhall
'render that Nation happy which moſt richly de-
'ſerves it, at leaſt for its Reſpect and its Fidelity to
'its Sovereigns; a Queen, who being inviolably
'attach'd to her Duty, full of Tenderneſs and Re-
'ſpect for her Huſband, and her King, and wiſely

'em-

'employ'd in what is capable of procuring her ſolid 'Happineſs, will revive to us the Reign of the 'Empreſs *Flaccilla*, of whom Hiſtory ſays, that 'having always kept the Precepts of the Divine 'Law in her View, ſhe conferr'd thereupon daily 'with the great *Theodoſius*, and that her Words like 'a fruitful Rain, water'd with Succeſs thoſe Seeds 'of Virtue which God had ſown in the Heart of 'her Huſband. Come then, MADAME, Come to 'the Altar. May the Engagements you are going 'to enter into, ſacred of themſelves, (ſince accord-'ing to the Apoſtle, they are the Symbol of the 'Union of Jeſus Chriſt with his Church) may they 'be alſo ſanctify'd by your own Diſpoſition. May 'you be ſo ſenſible of what you are going to be, 'that you may acknowledge that in crowning your 'Merits, he crowns his Gifts: And may you Chri-'ſtians that hear me, when you ſee the ſhining Re-'wards that are beſtowed in this World upon true 'Virtue, learn to reſpect and love it.'

The Cardinal's Speech after the Celebration of the Marriage.

MADAME,

'NOW that auguſt Ceremony is ended which 'crowns our Hopes and our Wiſhes; give 'me leave to deſire your Majeſty's Royal Protection 'for the Church of *Strasbourg*. This Church has 'not forgot and never will forget the ſignal Favours 'it has received from our former Kings. How great 'are its Obligations to our laſt Monarch! Being de-'liver'd up by the Misfortunes of the Times to the 'Furys of Schiſm and Hereſy, it would perhaps 'have periſh'd as many others did, if that great 'Prince, by reſuming the Rights of his Anceſtors, 'had not undertaken its Defence, and ſupported it 'with all his Power. To him it is oblig'd for the

'Ad-

'Advantage of being reſtored to the Poſſeſſion of 'this ſacred Temple from which it had been ba-'niſhed. There's nothing here but what puts us 'in mind of his Pious and Royal Magnificence. 'Temples adorn'd, Paſtors liberally maintain'd, 'Miſſions founded, new Converts protected and 'ſupported, are ſo many Monuments of the Zeal 'and Piety of a King whoſe Memory will never 'die. He had not the Comfort to finiſh the Work 'which he had undertaken; that is to ſay, the 'reuniting of all the Sheep of this illuſtrious Flock 'in one and the ſame Fold: This was reſerv'd to 'the worthy Heir of his Zeal and Crown. It will 'be your part, MADAME, to repreſent to your Au-'guſt Spouſe how much the Remembrance of his 'Great Grand-father, his own Glory, and our Ne-'ceſſities, which are even thoſe of Religion, require 'of him. You will not deſire that Recourſe ſhou'd 'be had to thoſe Methods which exaſperate, with-'out perſuading; ſuch would not be to your Majeſty's 'liking, and God forbid that we ſhould ſuggeſt them 'to you. Thoſe Children who diſown us are your 'Subjects, MADAME, and the Church of *Strasbourg* 'confiding intirely in God's Mercy, ſtill looks on 'it ſelf as their Mother. We therefore conjure you 'by the Bowels of Jeſus Chriſt, to employ, for the 'ſake of uniting them, every Thing with which 'an active but ſympathiſing Charity may inſpire you. God will bleſs your Majeſty's Endeavours, 'and our Deſires, and will employ the Inſtances of 'your Piety and your Faith to the total Confuſion 'of Error, and the Triumph of the Truth. May your 'Reign be long over us, MADAME, for the Hap-'pineſs of the King, and the Welfare of this great 'Kingdom. May God hear the Prayers which the 'Church has now offer'd up for your Majeſty, and 'may you be ſo good as to place us in the Rank of 'your moſt zealous and moſt faithful Subjects.'

LET-

LETTER XIX.

SIR, *Heidelberg, March* 12, 1730.

BEING in the Neighbourhood of SAVERNE where the Cardinal *de Roban* lives, I had a mind to go thither. I have had the Honour to be known to that Prelate a long time, and was overjoy'd at the Opportunity of paying my reſpects to him.

Armand Gaſton Cardinal *de Roban* was elected Biſhop of *Strasbourg* the 10th of *April*, 1704 *, and received the Cardinal's Cap from the Hands of *Lewis* XIV. the 18th of *May*, 1712. The Year following he ſucceeded the Cardinal *de Janſon* as Great Almoner. The Emperor granted him the Temporal Inveſtiture of the See of *Strasbourg* † on the

* The famous Cardinal *William Egon de Furſtemberg* Biſhop of *Strasbourg* dy'd the 10th of *April* 1704, and was immediately ſucceeded by the Abbot *de Roban*, who was choſe Coadjutor *Jan.* 31, 1701.

† *Strasbourg* was an Epiſcopal See before the Year 376, for one *Arnaud* Biſhop of *Strasbourg* was then preſent at the Council of *Cologne*. The Chapter is compoſed of 24 Members, *viz.* 12 Capitulars, and 12 Domicilairs, who muſt be all Princes or Counts. From 1592 the Canons were *Lutherans*, and Catholics till 1681, when *Lewis* XIV. having taken *Strasbourg* eſtabliſhed a Biſhop there whoſe See was at *Molſheim*, and cauſed the Cathedral to be reſtored to the Catholic Canons; and notwithſtanding the contrary Diſpoſitions of the Treaty of *Weſtphalia*, in 1687, he turn'd the *Lutheran* Canons out of *Bruderſdorff*, and the Prebends which they retain'd in the Chapter: Nevertheleſs the *Lutheran* Religion is tolerated in this City.

the 10th of *June* 1723, and in 1724, he obtain'd a Seat in the College of Princes at the Aſſembly of *Ratisbon*. This Prelate who is conſiderable for his Birth and Dignities, is much more ſo for his great Soul, his polite and obliging Behaviour, and for an Air of Grandeur which accompanies all his Actions. He is a comely Perſon, as are indeed all of his Family. Being noble and magnificent in every thing that he does, he lives wherever he is like a great Nobleman, but particularly at *Saverne*. I found at his Palace the Duke and Ducheſs of *Tallard*, the Ducheſs *de la Meilleraie*, Madamoiſelle *de Melun*, the Prince and Princeſs of *Birkenſfield*, M. *Dangervilliers*, the Intendant of *Straſbourg*, the Count and Princeſs of *Hanau*, and in ſhort a great many Officers of Diſtinction. They had all convenient Lodgings and Accommodation in the Caſtle; and Gaming, taking the Air, Hunting, Muſic, and Good-Cheer were their conſtant Diverſions.

The Biſhops of *Straſbourg* have reſided for a long time at the Palace of *Saverne*, which was always a convenient Houſe; but the Cardinal *de Rohan* has made it very conſiderable. The outſide of this Palace is not ſo magnificent as the inſide. The Entry which leads to the chief Stair-Caſe is lighted to great Advantage, and has ſeveral Outlets that have a convenient Communication with the lower Apartments, which are high, and very finely embelliſh'd. The principal Stair-Caſe is very grand, and leads to a ſtately Salon with moſt curious Decorations. It has a double Apartment which is render'd as commodious as poſſible; and the Furniture conſiſts of Embroidery of Gold and Silver, which may be thought perhaps too rich. The Queen, who lodg'd at the Cardinal's Houſe when ſhe came to *Saverne*, was charm'd with the Splendor of it, and the extraordinary Reſpect with which ſhe was attended here.

The

The Cardinal *de Roban* deſigns that this rich Furniture ſhall remain annex'd to the See; for which his Succeſſor will certainly have very great Obligations to him: But his Eminence was not ſo much oblig'd to his Predeceſſors; for when he was choſe Biſhop he found a Houſe very much out of order, and ſcarce a Chair in it, whereas 'tis now fit for a King. His Eminency is about making very large fine Gardens, which are in very great Forwardneſs, and perfectly anſwerable to the Grandeur and Beauty of the Palace; and at the end of them there is a ſtately Canal which coſt infinite Labour and Expence. The whole of it is the more magnificent becauſe *Saverne* ſtands at the foot of very high Mountains; and in digging the Canal the Workmen often met with Rocks which they were forc'd to blow up.

At the Cardinal's Table there's both Abundance and Elegance; and his Eminency entertains in ſuch a manner as really charms his Gueſts. All his Domeſtics follow his Example; and 'tis certain that they are all very diligent, and that there is not a Houſe in *France*, or in *Europe*, where there's better Attendance. His Eminency's Houſhold, and all his Temporal Affairs in general, are directed by the Abbot *de Ravanne*, Counſellor in the Parliament of *Paris*.

The Cardinal is one of the richeſt Noblemen in *France*, and without diſpute the moſt expenſive. He has built a Hotel at *Paris*, and furniſh'd it ſumptuouſly. He has made conſiderable Works at *Saverne*, and laid out a great deal of Money in Plate, Furniture, Pictures, antique Veſſels, and Buſts, Medals, and Books. Some time ago he purchas'd of the Preſident *Menard* the famous Library of the illuſtrious Meſſieurs *de Thou*, formerly one of the moſt celebrated in *France*; and he daily in-

riches

riches it with all the moſt curious and uncommon Books and Manuſcripts.

Beſides all theſe Expences, the Cardinal intends alſo to build a new epiſcopal Palace at *Straſbourg* * where he is indeed but indifferently lodg'd at preſent. The Marquiſs *de N*... talking of the Cardinal *de Rohan*'s Expence, ſaid, *That, to be ſure, his Eminency had found out the Philoſopher's Stone.* I think ſo too, and that he has done it by procuring himſelf five or ſix hundred thouſand Livres a-year in good Benefices.

From *Saverne* I went to HAGUENAU, and to WEISSENBOURG, formerly Imperial Cities, and now ſubject to *France*, but Places of little Conſequence. King *Staniſlaus* after the Death of *Charles* XII. King of *Sweden*, being forc'd to quit *Deux-Ponts* to which he had retired with his Family, came and reſided at *Weiſſenbourg*; and here it was that he receiv'd the firſt Propoſals that were made to him for the Marriage of his Daughter with King *Lewis* XV. I came and took up my Quarters at LANDAU, one of the moſt ſcoundrel Places in the World, but the beſt fortify'd; and famous for having ſtood out ſeveral Sieges. The Emperor *Joſeph* took it when he was King of the *Romans*. The *French* retook it a little before the ſigning of the Peace at *Raſtadt*, by which Treaty it was left in their hands. They maintain a good Garriſon in it, and have added ſeveral Works to it.

From *Landau* I paſs'd to BRHOUSEL, with an Intention to pay my reſpects to the Cardinal *de Schonborn* Biſhop of *Spire* who reſides there, but I did not ſucceed better there than at *Raſtadt*; for his Eminency excus'd himſelf from ſeeing me becauſe he was going a Hunting, and put me off till next day; but I did not think it worth while to wait, what had happen'd to me at the Court of *Baden* being too freſh in my Memory. I was afraid of the

* 'Tis already far advanc'd.

ſame

ſame Fate at *Brbouſel*, where I lay at ſuch ſorry Quarters that I cou'd not avoid catching Cold, my Lodging-Room being without Glaſs, and be famiſh'd into the bargain, there being nothing to eat: Beſides, my Landlord told me that the Cardinal made even thoſe People who came to him upon Buſineſs dance Attendance for three or four days. I ſaid to myſelf therefore that he had much more reaſon to make me wait, who came to his Court out of meer Curioſity. I reſolv'd therefore, as any Gentleman ought to have done in the like caſe, and took the opportunity of the Cardinal's Abſence to go and view the outſide of his Palace. 'Tis a great Structure not yet intirely finiſh'd, which the Cardinal has hitherto carry'd on from the very Foundation; but if I muſt be ſincere with you, all theſe Works, conſiderable as they are, have been form'd upon pitiful Plans. It has coſt a very large Sum of Money; and I fancy that in the time of the ancient *Teutonics* it wou'd have been reckon'd a very fine Structure. The chief Beauty of it lies in its Situation; for a great Variety of agreeable Objects are diſcover'd from the Apartments. The Gardens are alſo ſo new that one can ſcarce know the Plan of 'em; it ſeems to me that they are not of an extraordinary Taſte, and that they wou'd be much more ſuitable for a private Man than for a Sovereign.

The Cardinal *de Schonborn* is a keen Sportſman. He has Game enough in his own Biſhoprick, for the Country ſo abounds with all ſorts that the Fields are ruin'd by the Deer. The Peaſants are ſo hard put to it to preſerve their Corn that they are oblig'd to watch it day and night. The Cardinal often makes Hunting-Matches for the Stag and wild Boar, in which they kill hundreds; at ſuch times the Peaſants are oblig'd to take a certain quantity of Meat, for which they pay ſo much a Pound,

Pound, according to a Price that is regulated. The Biſhoprick of *Spire* is one of the fruitfulleſt Provinces in *Germany*, but the Inhabitants are extremely poor; for their Proviſions lie on their hands, and they have ſcarce wherewithal to pay the great Taillies due to their Sovereigns.

The Dignity of the Biſhop of *Spire* is elective, as are all the Biſhopricks of *Germany* which are not in the hereditary Dominions of the Houſe of *Auſtria*. The Biſhop is Sovereign of the Country, but the City of *Spire* has particular Privileges, as have all the Imperial Cities. You know it was at *Spire* that the Emperor *Charles* V. eſtabliſh'd the Imperial Chamber, which is as it were the Parliament of the Empire. The *French* having deſtroy'd *Spire* when they ravag'd the *Palatinate*, the Chamber or ſupreme Tribunal was transferred to *Wetzlar* in *Wetteravia*, where indeed it ſeem'd to be more in the Center of *Germany*, and ſecur'd from all manner of Inſult.

Damien-Hugo Count *de Schonborn* Cardinal, is at this preſent Biſhop of *Spire*, and Coadjutor of *Conſtance*. He is alſo grand Commander of the Teutonic-Order. He was heretofore a Member of the Emperor's Privy-Council, and his Plenipotentiary to the Circle of Lower *Saxony*. *Clement* XI. of the *Albani* Family honour'd him with the Purple. He is deſcended of a Family in which Merit has happen'd to be back'd by Fortune. The Cardinal's Father was the firſt Count of it. He was alſo one of the Emperor's Privy-Council, and Brother to *Lotharius-Francis* Elector of *Mentz* and Biſhop of *Bamberg*. The Cardinal has actually a Brother who is Elector of *Triers*, another who is Biſhop of *Wurtzbourg* and *Bamberg*, whom I have mention'd to you upon other occaſions; and laſtly, a third who is a Counſellor of State * to the Emperor,

* He was admitted Kt. of the Golden-Fleece at the laſt Promotion.

peror, and is now the Head of the Family. Meſſieurs *de Schonborn* had formerly an Elector of *Mentz* in their Family, who was at the ſame time Biſhop of *Wurtzbourg*, but that Prince left them no great Eſtate; ſo that they were not very rich when *Lotharius Francis*, Uncle to them all, was choſe Elector of *Mentz*. But this Prince procur'd them both Wealth and Honours, and render'd the Count *de Schonborn*, who is Counſellor of State to the Emperor, one of the richeſt Noblemen in *Germany*.

From *Brhouſel* to *Heidelberg* there's one of the fineſt Countries in the World, planted with Fruit, and eſpecially Walnut-Trees, which bring in a great Revenue.

The City of HEIDELBERG, upon the *Necker*, is very much pent up by that River, and a Chain of Hills, ſo that 'tis not near ſo broad as 'tis long. This City is the Capital of the Lower *Palatinate*, and was formerly the Reſidence of the Electors. Here is a Univerſity which was founded in 1346, by *Robert* Prince *Palatine*, who was choſe King of the *Romans*. No Town has ſmarted more by the Scourge of War. Since the Diſgrace of *Frederic* Elector *Palatine*, whom the *Bohemians* choſe for their King, it has been taken, plunder'd, or burnt four times. In 1622, the Emperor's General *Tilly* put 500 *Palatines* in it to the Sword, and at the ſame time the Emperor carry'd off the famous Library, which he gave in part to *Urban* VIII. who cauſed it to be placed in the *Vatican*, where 'tis ſtill to be ſeen. In 1634, *Heidelberg* was beſieg'd twice. *John de Werth* took it for *Lewis* XIV. but not being able to carry the Caſtle he retir'd. Not many days after, the Marſhals *de Force* and *Brezé* forc'd the Quarters of the *Germans*, and took both the Town and Caſtle. The *French* took this City a third time in 1688, and again in 1693, which

was the laſt time, Sword in hand; at what time they committed Cruelties ſhocking to remember, and of which there are woful Marks ſtill left in *Heidelberg*, and all the Towns in the *Palatinate*. This City was beginning to recover itſelf by the Elector's reſiding there, when it brought a more heavy Diſgrace upon itſelf than all the Misfortunes it had ſuffer'd by the War. The Caſe was thus:

The great Church of *Heidelberg* ſince the Peace of *Weſtphalia* belongs half to *Roman* Catholics, and half to the *Calviniſts*, of whom the former have the Choir, and the others the Body, and nothing but a thin Partition ſeparates the two Communions. The Choir not being big enough to contain the Catholics when the Court reſided at *Heidelberg*, the Elector propos'd to the *Calviniſts* to yield him the Body of the Church, alledging that not only the Choir was too ſcanty, but that he ſhou'd be very glad that the Church in which the *Palatine* Princes lie interr'd were altogether Catholic. He promis'd at the ſame time that another Church ſhould be built for them larger and finer than what they were to yield to him. The *Calviniſts* ſaid that the great Church had been granted to them by the Treaty of *Munſter*; that all the Princes who were Guarantees of the Peace of *Weſtphalia* were engag'd to preſerve them in the Enjoyment of it; that therefore they could not give it up without violating that Treaty, which was their Security, and without rendring themſelves unworthy of the Protection of the Proteſtant Powers. The Elector in order to remove thoſe Obſtacles, conſented that the Powers who were Guarantees of the *Weſtphalian* Treaty of Peace, in which the Church he deſir'd was expreſsly mentioned, ſhould be Guarantees of the Church which he promis'd ſhould be built for them: But all theſe Offers how reaſonable ſoever were not accepted by the

the *Calviniſts*. The Elector being thereby incens'd, made uſe of his Sovereign Authority, and took by force what they were not willing to yield to him; whereupon the *Calviniſts* had recourſe to the Proteſtant Princes of the Empire, the *Lutherans* as well as the *Calviniſts*, who conſtituting but one Body and one Communion when the Catholics are to be oppos'd, united together, and engaged in their Quarrel the Kings of *Great Britain*, *Denmark*, *Sweden*, and *Pruſſia*, and the *States-General*. Theſe Powers cauſed the Catholic Churches in their Dominions to be ſhut up, ſequeſter'd the Eſtates of the Convents, and made ſuch Clamors and Menaces that the Elector was oblig'd to reinſtate the *Calviniſts* in the Nave of the Church; but he was ſo angry with the Inhabitants of *Heidelberg* for their Diſreſpect to him that he remov'd his Reſidence to *Manheim*. The Burghers were not very ſorry at firſt for the Departure of the Court; for being accuſtom'd to its Abſence, they flattered themſelves that the Tribunals of the Regency, which, ſince the Acceſſion of the *Newbourg* Family to the Electorate, had conſtantly been kept at *Heidelberg*, would remain there ſtill. But they were ſoon thrown into the utmoſt Conſternation when they ſaw thoſe Tribunals follow the Elector. They went and caſt themſelves at the Feet of their angry Sovereign, and aſking his Pardon for having affronted him, they offer'd him the Church which was the cauſe of his Diſpleaſure, and conjur'd him to return to their City. But all their Supplications were fruitleſs; the Elector was ſtedfaſt in his Reſolution to puniſh *Heidelberg*, and abandon'd it for ever. *Heidelberg* having no Trade, and ſubſiſting only by the Court, or by the Tribunals of the Regency, of which it was totally depriv'd, falls now into decay, and will, no doubt, e'er 'tis long dwindle to little or nothing.

The Elector's Palace is higher than the City, and ſituate in ſuch a manner that there's a Proſpect from the great Apartments quite through the Opening between the Mountains, by which the *Necker* runs into the Plain. The Palace is built of Free-Stone, and is a magnificent Structure. The greateſt part of it was burnt by the *French* when they deſtroy'd the *Palatinate*: The Lodging-Rooms that are ſubſiſting are very ſubſtantial, tho' not built in the modern Taſte. The Apartments are large, but want Ornament, eſpecially ſince they have been ſtript of their Furniture. The Gardens were formerly reckon'd the fineſt in *Germany*; but there's ſcarce any thing left of them except the Place where they flouriſhed. If one may judge of what they were by their Situation, they muſt have been very pleaſant, by reaſon of the extenſive Proſpect they afforded into the Country.

I do not intend to detain you with an account of the famous Tun, *Miſſon* having given a more exact Deſcription of that than of many Towns which he treats of. You will in his *Travels* find a Cut of this Veſſel, which will give you a more perfect Idea of it than any Narrative whatſoever. The Elector *John-William*, the Predeceſſor of the preſent Elector, gave a Companion to this Tun, which is not altogether ſo large, but much more adorn'd. They are both full of Wine. I remember that in 1719, when I was at the *Palatine* Court, the Elector aſk'd me at Table whether I had ſeen the Great Tun; and upon my ſaying that I had not, that Prince, than whom there was not a more gracious Sovereign in the whole World, told me he would carry me to it. He made a Propoſal to the Princeſs his Daughter, who was marry'd to the hereditary Prince of *Sultzbach*, to go thither after Dinner was over; which ſhe accepted. The Trumpets led the way, and the Court followed in great

great Ceremony. When we had mounted the Platform which is over the Tun, the Elector did me the honour to drink to me out of the *Wilkom*, which was a Silver gilt Cup, of a large dimenſion. He took it off clean at one Draught, and having cauſed it to be repleniſhed, ſent it to me by a Page. Good Manners, and the Reſpect I ow'd to the Elector's Commands, not permitting me to refuſe the Chalice, I begg'd heartily that he would ſuffer me to drink it off at ſeveral Draughts; which was indulg'd me; and the Elector talking in the mean time with the Ladies, I took the Opportunity of his Abſence, and made no ſcruple to deceive him, for I return'd great part of the Wine to the bottom of the Tun, threw a part of it on the Ground, and the reſt, which was the leaſt part of it, I drank. I thought myſelf well off that he did not perceive in what manner I bubbled him; for I ſaw he was very well pleas'd with me. Then ſeveral other great Glaſſes went round, and the very Ladies wet their Lips, which was the thing that effectually contributed to demoliſh us. I was one of the firſt that was overpower'd. I perceived thoſe convulſive Motions that threaten'd me if I drank any more, therefore I ſneak'd off and made the beſt of my way down from the Platform. I was endeavouring to get out of the Vault, but was ſtop'd at the Door by two Life-Guard Men, who with their Carabines croſſing each other, cry'd, *Stand, there's no coming this way.* I conjur'd them to let me paſs, and told them that I had very important Reaſons for my Departure; but I might as well have talk'd to the Wind. I found myſelf in a terrible Quandary: To get up again to the Head of the Tun was Death: What would become of me I could not tell. In ſhort I crept under the Tun, and there hoped to hide myſelf; but it was a fruitleſs Precaution: There's no avoiding a Man's Deſtiny. It was my

Fate to be carry'd out of the Vault, and to know nothing of the matter. For the Elector perceiv'd I was a Deſerter, and I heard him ſay, *Where is he? What's become of him? Let him be look'd after, and brought up to me dead or alive.* The Guards at the Door being examin'd ſaid that I came that way in order to get out, but that they ſent me back again. All theſe Inquiries, which I heard from my Hole, made me burrow myſelf the more. I crept under the Covert of a couple of Boards I met with by chance, where nothing but a Cat, Devil, or Page could poſſibly find me out. But a little Page, who was indeed both Devil and Page too, ferreted me, and baul'd out like one that was mad, *Here he is! Here he is!* and then I was taken out of my Covert. You may imagine what a ſilly Figure I made. I was carry'd before my Judge, who was the Elector himſelf. But I took the Liberty to challenge both him and all the Gentlemen in his Retinue, as being Parties in the Cauſe. *Alas! my little Gentleman,* ſaid the Prince to me, *You refuſe us for your Judges; I will appoint you others then, and we ſhall ſee whether you will come off any better.* He nominated the Princeſs his Daughter, and her Ladies to try me, and the Elector was my Accuſer. After pleading my own Cauſe they put it to the Vote, and I was condemn'd unanimouſly to drink as long as I could ſwallow. The Elector ſaid, that as he was the Sovereign he would mitigate my Sentence; that I ſhould that day drink four Pint Glaſſes of Wine, and that for a Fortnight running I ſhould tip off the like Glaſs to his Health immediately after Dinner. Every body admir'd the Elector's Clemency, and whether I did or not, I was fain to do as they did, and to return him Thanks. Then I underwent the heavieſt part of my Sentence; I did not loſe my Life indeed, but for ſome Hours I loſt both my Speech and my Reaſon.

Reaſon. I was carry'd to a Bed, where when I came to myſelf I was told that my Accuſers were in the ſame Pickle as I was; and that none of them went out of the Vault in the ſame manner as they enter'd it. Next day the Elector was ſo good as to mitigate the remaining part of my Sentence, and excus'd me from the Penance to which I was condemn'd, upon my promiſing him that I wou'd make one at his Table for a Month to come.

I am, &c.

LETTER XX.

SIR, *Manheim, March* 17. 1730.

IN going from *Heidelberg* to MANHEIM we leave the *Necker* on the right hand, but keep almoſt all the way by the ſide of that River. 'Tis three Leagues from one City to the other, over a fruitful Plain. *Manheim* lies between the *Rhine* and the *Necker*, in a marſhy Country, which has always been reckon'd very unwholeſome. About fourſcore Years ago this City was but a Village. *Frederic* Elector *Palatine*, who was choſe King of *Bohemia*, caus'd it to be fortify'd, and built a Caſtle or Citadel there, which he call'd *Fredericſbourg*. At the ſame time a Town was built, of which all the Streets run parallel, the chief that paſſes thro' the middle of the Town was planted with Trees after the manner of *Holland*. But the *French* having taken *Manheim* in 1693, raz'd it to the Ground,

and by the Treaty of *Nimeguen* it was ſtipulated that *Manheim* ſhould be demoliſhed; which was done accordingly. *John-William* of *Newbourg*, the laſt Elector, began again to fortify *Manheim*, according to the Plans laid down by the famous *Cohorn*; but thoſe Works were ſuſpended, ſo that no more than two Baſtions and a Courtain were finiſh'd. When the preſent Elector *Charles-Philip* came to live at *Manheim* he caus'd thoſe Works to be reſumed which his Brother had diſcontinued, and to be carry'd on with ſuch Diligence that in a few Years he put the Place in a ſtate of Defence *. The Fortifications are all fac'd with Brick; and *Manheim* is now one of the beſt Places in all *Germany*.

This City has three fine Gates, of which that of the *Necker* is the moſt magnificent, and the beſt adorned; in which one ſees beautiful Baſſo-relievos, after a Plan very happily executed. This Gate opens towards a long and ſpacious Street, at the end of which ſtands the Elector's Palace, one of the largeſt and moſt ſubſtantial Buildings in *Europe*. It were to be wiſh'd indeed that the Architecture had been more regular: Never had any Architect more Advantage, for he built it new from the Foundation, was not ſtinted for want of room, and as he ſet no Limits to his Expence, I ſhou'd have thought that a maſterly hand might have produc'd ſomething curious. Nevertheleſs there are Faults in the Building which are ſhocking to ſuch as have the leaſt Skill in Architecture; inſomuch that they who have a Taſte for that Science are ſorry that a Building which has been ſo expenſive has been no better conducted. The Situation of this Palace is indeed very fine, at the end of the City, and of a very noble large Street, which like all the reſt runs in a ſtrait Line. The Palace, which has a great Square before

* This Fortreſs is now finiſh'd, and the Elector, who continues to keep his Court here, has a ſtrong Gariſon in it.

before it, consists of a large number of Lodging-Rooms, with a great high Pavilion in the middle, and two advanc'd Wings, with ample Pavilions at the ends; where two other very extensive Wings rise on both sides that are likewise terminated by Pavilions, behind which there are other Lodging-Rooms. The inside of the Palace is form'd by two great Courts, which are to be separated by an open Gallery or Terrass, the Model of which is very much adorned with Architecture; but I can't think it will look well when 'tis done. The Apartments are adorn'd with fine noble Floors and Cielings, and have the finest Prospect in the World to *Spire*, *Franckendabl*, *Worms*, and all the Country in general, as far as the Mountains of *Alsace*, which consists wholly of Towns and Villages. All this fine fruitful Country is water'd by the *Rhine*, which passes behind the Palace of *Manheim*, and washes its Fortifications. Upon this beautiful Canal there are to be the Gardens of the Palace, for which there are intended two Courtains and a Bastion.

'Tis almost inconceivable how the Elector was able to get all the Works about *Manheim* finished in so few Years; for in short I remember to have seen Partridges where there are now Houses and Palaces. The whole Town is laid out in a most regular and charming manner; and 'tis without dispute one of the prettiest Towns in *Europe*. 'Tis pity the Houses are not higher: The reason they alledge for it is, that *Manheim* is a fortify'd Town, and that by consequence the Houses ought to be low. I know not what Authority there is for this, since *Strasbourg*, *Metz*, *Luxembourg*, and *Lisle*, are Places of much more Importance than *Manheim*, and yet the Houses are as high there as they are in other Towns.

The Palace is commodious, and yet, for what reason I know not, the Elector does not live

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in it *. Some ſay that he has been told of ſo many Faults in it as have quite put him out of conceit with it, and others that 'tis becauſe a certain Aſtrologer propheſy'd he would die there; but I am apt to believe that the latter reaſon is no more than a Joke, and I dare to ſay that the Elector is too wiſe a Man to credit it. Mean time this Prince dwells in a Houſe belonging to a *Jew*, to which ſeveral other private Houſes are join'd; but for all that the Lodgings are very bad.

There can't be a better-natur'd Man than *Charles-Philip* of *Newbourg*, Elector *Palatine*. He is the beſt of Maſters, and the moſt affable of Princes. He is reckoned extremely handſome, and one of the chief Dancers in his Time; and he has a noble Aſpect. His Behaviour and Converſation engage one to love him, and to pay one's Court to him out of pure Inclination. He formerly was fond of Pomp and Pleaſure, but ſince the Loſs of his only Daughter and his Son-in-law, who died within a few Years one of another, he ſeems to be no longer taken with what was heretofore his Amuſement. The Elector has been twice marry'd, *viz.* firſt to *Louiſa-Charlotte* Princeſs of *Radzeville*, and ſecondly to *Thereſa-Lubomirſki*, both *Poliſh* Ladies. The former left him a Daughter that was marry'd to *Joſeph-Charles* Prince *Palatine* of *Sultzbach*, but died in 1728; as did her Huſband the Year following. This Princeſs had ſuch Beauty and Merit, that ſhe was the Comfort of her Father and the Admiration of her Acquaintance. She left three young Princeſſes, whom the Elector cauſes to be educated at his Court, where they are now all that he has to delight him; but then they inceſſantly renew to him the ſorrowful Remembrance of a Daughter who was extremely dear to him.

The

* He actually lodges there now.

The Death of that Princeſs has been a very great Affliction to the Elector, and chang'd the Face of the *Palatine* Court. Indeed as to Affability, and to the Goodneſs of his Temper, he is ſtill the ſame Elector, but he has no longer that Gaiety of Humour which his Daughter's Company rais'd in him; for ſhe had a thouſand different Amuſements for him, and Pleaſures and Merriment every where accompany'd her. The Elector eats always in private, except on Holidays, and when there's any foreign Prince at his Court. After he has been in public at Maſs, he commonly ſtops in one of his Apartments to chat with the Courtiers, or to play at Billiards till Dinner-time, After Dinner he goes to Bed, and lies there two Hours; then he riſes, and after having caus'd himſelf to be dreſs'd he gives Audience to his Miniſters, and to ſuch private Perſons as want to talk with him. He is very attentive to thoſe who ſpeak to him, and anſwers them with Good-nature and Kindneſs. He ſeldom refuſes what is in his Power to grant; and when Reaſons force him to a Denial, 'tis viſible that he is uneaſy, and he refuſes in ſo civil a manner, that People go away at leaſt comforted if not contented. At ſix o'clock in the Evening the whole Court meets in his Electoral Highneſs's Apartment, where there is Play till nine o'clock, and then the Elector retires, makes a very ſlight Supper, and goes to Bed in good time.

Tho' the Elector dines in private there's always a Table ſumptuouſly ſerv'd for the hereditary Prince of *Sultzbach*, Brother to him who was the Elector's Son-in-law. This paſſes for the Elector's Table, is ſpread for eighteen Gueſts, and is ſerv'd by Pages.

The Prince *de Sultzbach* is look'd upon as the Elector's Heir, becauſe 'tis not ſuppoſed that the Elector's Brother, the Elector of *Mentz*, would be

be willing to quit the firſt Electorate of the Empire, and the great Benefices which he poſſeſſes, to become Elector *Palatine*, if he ſhould happen to ſurvive his Brother *. The Biſhop of *Augſbourg*, the Elector's ſecond Brother, being a Prieſt, cannot ſucceed. The Prince *de Sultzbach*'s Father is ſtill living; but being as old as the Elector, he is not like to ſurvive him very long †. The Prince *John-Chriſtian* of *Sultzbach* was born in 1700. He is the Widower of the Princeſs *de la Tour* of *Auvergne*, who brought him for her Portion the Sovereignty of *Bergopzoom*; and left him a Son, who is educated at *Bruſſels* with his Great-Grandmother the Ducheſs Dowager of *Aremberg*. The Prince *John-Chriſtian* is tall and extremely corpulent, inſomuch that 'tis well if he has not the Dropſy. He ſpent the firſt Days of his Youth at the Court of *Lorrain*, in *France*, and in the *Netherlands*, by which Travels he acquired a great deal of Politeneſs. He was lately betrothed to *Eleonora-Philippina* of *Heſſe-Rhinfelds*, Siſter to the Princeſs of *Piedmont* ‖, and to the Ducheſs of *Bourbon*. This Princeſs is every day expected from *Turin*, to which Place ſhe accompanied her Siſter. Their Highneſſes will then go and keep their Court at *Heidelberg* **.

The

* This Prince died at *Breſlau* in *April* 1732.

† His Name was *Theodore*. He was born in 1659, and died in 1732.

‖ The late Queen of *Sardinia*.

** The Prince *John-Chriſtian* became Prince Regent of *Sultzbach* after his Father's Death, but did not long ſurvive him, for he died ſuddenly *July* 20, 1733; ſo that Prince *Charles* his Son, born *December* 10 1724, is now Prince *Palatine* of *Sultzbach*, Marquiſs of *Bergopzoom*, and preſumptive Heir to the Elector. He is a very forward hopeful Youth. The Elector has ſent for him from *Bruſſels* to *Manheim*, notwithſtanding the Intreaty of the Ducheſs *d'Aremberg* his Great-Grandmother by the Mother's ſide, (who had the care of his Education,) that he might be permitted to ſtay with her. This young Prince's Grandmother

is

The Principal Noblemen of the *Palatine* Court are the following:

Francis-George Count of *Manderſcheldt-Blanckenheim* *, the Steward of the Houſhold, Prime Miniſter, and Knight of the Order of St. *Hubert*. He is of illuſtrious Extraction; is a Man of Integrity and very great Probity, incapable of doing an ill thing, but not at all engaging in his Deportment; for he is reſerved, with an Air of Haughtineſs, which is a Defect that he was born with, and endeavours to conquer but cannot. When one knows him intimately he proves a good Friend, and capable of doing one Service. He has very great Penſions from the Elector, and is the oldeſt of his Family, which being pretty numerous, he does not live in a very grand manner.

The Baron *de Sickingen* is Great Chamberlain, Miniſter of State, and Knight of the Order of St. *Hubert*. He is a Gentleman of a fine Preſence, of an eaſy and engaging Acceſs, with profound Learning, and Sentiments ſuitable to his Birth. He was Governour of the late Prince *de Sultzbach*, Son-in-law to the Elector; and he imprinted ſuch Ideas of Men and Things in the Mind of that young Prince, as gave great Hopes that his Government would be happy if ever he attain'd to it. M. *de Sickingen* was afterward the Elector's Envoy Extraordinary to the Imperial Court; and I knew him at *Vienna* where he was exceedingly beloved. At his return he ſucceeded his Brother in the Office of Great Chamberlain, which he exerciſes with the Approbation of the whole Court.

John-

is the Princeſs Dowager *d'Auvergne*, Siſter to the Duke *d'Aremberg*, one of the toaſted Beauties of her Time. She retir'd to a Nunnery, is a Lady of good Learning, and now one of the Heads of the *Janſeniſt* Party of *Holland*.

* He died ſoon after this was written, and his Place is not yet fill'd up.

John-Frederic Count *de Globe*, is Grand Marſhal, Miniſter of State, and Knight of the Order of St. *Hubert*. He is very rich, and has a fine Eſtate in *Bohemia*. He was once the Elector's Page, who finding him at the bottom a Man of Integrity and Honour, took care of his Fortune, gave him the beſt Employments at his Court, and raiſed him to the Dignity of Count. M. *de Globe* has been ſeldom at *Manheim* for ſome Years paſt; which is a Loſs both to Court and City, becauſe he liv'd very nobly, and more than all, was very civil to Foreigners *.

The Baron *de Woblin* is Maſter of the Horſe †. He is one of thoſe Men in whom we meet with that Candor and Probity ſo much boaſted by our Fathers.

The Count *de la Tour* and *Taxis* is Captain of the Life-Guards, Lieutenant-General, and Knight of the Order of St. *Hubert*. His Carriage ſeems blunt and proud, yet he is familiar with thoſe that are in his Confidence. He has conſiderable Credit at Court, owing to his Siſter's being ſo long in Favour with the Elector.

Julius Auguſtus Count *de la Marck*, Lieutenant-General, Captain of the hundred *Swiſſers*, and Knight of St. *Hubert*, is deſcended of an illuſtrious Family in the Empire. He ſpent part of his Youth in the Service of *France*, where his eldeſt Brother is now actually a Lieutenant-General, Colonel of a foreign Regiment, and a Commander of the Order of the *Holy Ghoſt*. He has learnt all the *French* Politeneſs; his Be-

* I ſuppoſe M. *de Globe* is dead; at leaſt he is no longer Grand Marſhal, that Poſt being occupied by the Baron *de Beveren*, a Privy-Counſellor and Preſident of the Eccleſiaſtic Adminiſtration at *Heidelberg*. This Miniſter does an Honour to the Elector's Choice of his Perſon.

† The Office of Maſter of the Horſe is vacant; but the Count *de Neſſelrod* does the Duties of it, in quality of Vice-Maſter of the Horſe.

Behaviour reſembles the Man of Quality; his Temper is gay, and he loves good Cheer, Joy, and Pleaſures.

The Count *Egmont de Hatzfeldt* Lieutenant-General, Miniſter of State, and Secretary at War, comes from one of the beſt Families in the Empire. This Nobleman is extraordinary civil; his Houſe is open to all Perſons of Diſtinction; he lives very nobly, and both his Lady and himſelf are very fond of entertaining Foreigners. They were both intruſted to conduct to *Piedmont* the Princeſs of *Sultzbach* firſt Wife to *Charles* Prince of *Piedmont* *, and diſcharged their Employments in ſuch a manner that they had the general Approbation of the *Sardinian* Court.

The Barons of *Hildeſheim* and *Beveren* are both Miniſters of State. The former acquired a very great Reputation in the Negociations that were carry'd on at *Heidelberg* in 1719, for the Church of the *Calviniſts* which the Elector had a mind ſhou'd be Catholic. The ſecond has been Envoy to the King of *Great Britain*. They are both to be valued for their Merit, live very honourably, and make Foreigners welcome.

I could tell you of many other Perſons of Birth and Merit employ'd at this Court, but really my Letter would be too tedious. Nevertheleſs I cannot omit the mention of the Baron *d' Obſten* whom you ſaw at *Breſlau*, after he had quitted the Service of the *Czar*. He is ſettled here, but has no Character. He and all his Family are become of our Communion. He has a conſiderable Penſion from the Elector, and is generally very well eſteem'd. His Son who is a Captain, is a young Gentleman of Merit, and his Daughters are young Ladies highly to be eſteem'd for their good Behaviour and Politeneſs.

The

* The preſent King of *Sardinia*.

The Count *de Naſſau-Weilbourg* lives here alſo. His Birth would engage me to give you an Account of him tho' I were not induc'd to it by the Conſideration of his Merit. This Nobleman has an infinite ſhare of it; he is generous, magnificent, genteel, and civil, knowing what Family he is deſcended from; but knowing it for no other reaſon than to diſcharge all the Obligations of it. He is the Ornament of this Court, tho' he is not in the Service of the Elector. His Father was Velt-Marſhal, and Commander in Chief of the *Palatine* Troops during the Reign of the late Elector *John-William*. The Count I am ſpeaking of was Envoy Extraordinary from the Elector to the Court of *France* during the Minority of *Lewis* XV. He then went often to the Royal Palace to pay his court to the Regent's Mother, and there it was that I knew him; for that Lady and the whole Court of *France* had a very great Value for him. That Princeſs ſpeaking of him one Day to me, ſaid ſhe was very glad that he was a Count of *Naſſau*; for indeed, ſaid ſhe, he deſerves to bear a great Name *.

There are amiable People here of both Sexes who are very ſociable, ſo that 'tis a Stranger's own Fault if he miſſes of Amuſement here; for ſuch are generally treated very civilly. As for my own part, I have received ſo many Courteſies from the Elector, and ſo many Favours from his Court that I ſhall for ever acknowledge them.

The Nobility maintain a Company of *French* Comedians who act three times a Week upon a very little Theatre, but both the Townſmen and Foreigners pay. Tho' this Company, of which the Count *de la*

* General *Iſſelbach* Commander in Chief of the *Palatine* Troops, and Governour of *Manheim* dying in *Auguſt* 1734, the Elector gave the Command of his Troops to the Count *de Naſſau-Weilbourg*, and the Government of *Manheim* to the Baron *de Zobel*.

la Marck has the Direction is not the beſt, yet 'tis a Pleaſure to go to it for the ſake of ſeeing Company. In the Time of the late Princeſs there were a thouſand Pleaſures which there are not now, ſo that her Death is ſtill lamented.

The Elector's Revenues are reckoned at two Millions of Crowns. You may rate them more or leſs, 'tis no matter; for my own part, I affirm nothing, being not willing to imitate the Marquis *de Breton-Villiers*, who in his Memoirs of the Regency values the Revenues of all the Princes of the Univerſe with as much Aſſurance as if he had been Superintendant of every one's Finances. The Elector has about 7 or 8000 Soldiers, excluſive of his Guards. His beſt Places are *Manheim*, *Juliers*, and *Duſſeldorp*. The three Religions tolerated in the Empire have Churches here, and the *Jews* a large Synagogue. They are very numerous at this Place, and two thirds of the Houſes belong to them, as being either built by them or mortgag'd to 'em. Some of them are very rich, and drive a great Trade with the *Jews* at *Metz*, *Frankfort* and *Amſterdam*. 'Tis certain that they do a great Injury to the Chriſtian Merchants, and that they are not honeſter here than elſewhere.

Don't write to me, if you pleaſe, before I have ſent you my Direction, becauſe I know not whether I ſhall ſtay long enough at *Frankfort*, to which ſome Affairs call me, to receive your Letters.

Juſt now we hear of the Death of Pope *Benedict* XIII. As I never ſaw a Conclave, and am in the Humour of Travelling, I have an Inclination to take a Tour to *Rome*. I ſhall not reſolve on it till I come to *Frankfort*. Which Way ſoever I go you ſhall be inform'd, and I will not fail to deſire your Commands. Mean time I am always very ſincerely, *&c.*

LETTER XXI.

SIR, *Frankfort, March* 21. 1730.

AT my Departure from *Manheim* I paſs'd the *Rhine* over a Bridge of Boats, and in three Hours time arrived at FRANCKENDAHL, which was formerly fortified, but after having ſuffered by the general Conflagration in the *Palatinate*, was diſmantled by the Peace of *Nimeguen*, and ſo it has remained ever ſince. It ſtill bears the Marks of *French* Fury; and a great many Houſes that were burn'd have not been rebuilt.

There's the fineſt Country in the World between *Franckendahl* and WORMS. I came hither at ten o' clock in the Morning, and ſpent the reſt of the Forenoon in ſeeing what was moſt remarkable. *Worms* is not the Place now that it was before the *French* burn'd it. Its moſt wealthy Inhabitants, inſtead of rebuilding their Houſes, retir'd to *Frankfort* and *Holland*, ſo that the Chapter of *Worms* which is wholly compos'd of Perſons of Quality, is now the chief Glory of the Town. The Biſhop of it is the Elector * of *Mentz*, who was choſe *July* 12, 1694. This Prince has built a new Epiſcopal Palace, the Contrivance of which

* Since this was written the Elector of *Mentz* of the *Palatine* Family of *Newbourg* dying, the Chapter of *Worms* unanimouſly choſe for its Biſhop *Francis George* Count *de Schonborn*, Archbiſhop and Elector of *Triers*.

which is beautiful. It joins to the Cathedral which is ancient, and built very ſubſtantially. The *Lutherans* have juſt built a fine Church, the Roof of which is painted. In ſeveral Compartiments there's the Hiſtory of *Luther*'s pretended Reformation. That Doctor is there repreſented as appearing before the Dyet of the Empire which met at *Worms An.* 1521. You know that he was cited to it by the Emperor *Charles* V. His Friends, to diſſuade him from appearing, put him in mind of *John Huſs*, who notwithſtanding the Safe-Conduct that had been granted him by the Emperor *Sigiſmond*, was burnt by a Decree of the Council of *Conſtance*. *Luther*, without being intimidated, ſaid, that *tho' he was ſure to be engag'd with as many Devils as there were Tiles upon the Houſes of* Worms, *he was reſolv'd to go.* He went thither accordingly and appear'd the 17th of *April* before the Dyet, where he offer'd with a Courage deſerving a better Cauſe, to maintain his Doctrine and his Writings againſt all that ſhould go about to demoliſh them from the Holy Scriptures.

The City of *Worms* ſtands in the middle of a fine ſpacious Plain, abounding with Corn, Vineyards, and Fruit-Trees. A Wine is produced here which is call'd *Lieben-Frauen-Milch*, i. e. *Our Lady's Milk.* The *Rhine* is about three or four hundred Paces from the Town, but 'tis ſaid it formerly ran cloſe by the Walls of it. Which Way ſoever one comes to *Worms*, one perceives at a great Diſtance the four Towers of the Cathedral which are all built of red Freeſtone. Two drunken Fellows miſtook thoſe Towers one day for Capuchin Fryars. Being in the Country at a pretty good Diſtance from the Town, as the Sun was going down, one of them ſaid to his Comrade, *We have no Time to loſe, the Gates are going to be ſhut.—No matter*, ſaid the other, pointing to the Towers; *Don't you ſee thoſe Capuchins*

there before us? They are of the Town, and are going thither as well as we. You are in the right, reply'd the former, *let us drink the good Fryars Healths.* They had a Gourd Bottle full of Wine, of which they drank every Drop, ſo that they did not overtake the imaginary Capuchins till next Day.

There is not a finer Country than that between *Worms* and OPPENHEIM, a little Town upon an Eminence, on the left Side of the *Rhine*, to which we paſs over a flying Bridge. The Road from *Oppenheim* is unpaſſable for near two Leagues, becauſe 'tis commonly overflown by that River; but afterwards the Way is perfectly good to *Frankfort*. 'Twas very late when I came to this City, but by good luck the People of *Frankfort* who formerly ſhut their Gates at Sun-ſet have lately choſe to keep them open till ten o' clock, ſo that for paying a Trifle one may enter the Town.

I know not whether I need give any Account of the City of FRANKFORT. It has been ſo often deſcrib'd, and is ſo well known to the World, that I fancy every body knows what ſort of Town it is, tho' they have not ſeen it. *Frankfort* is famous for its two yearly Fairs, *viz.* at *Eaſter* and *Michaelmas*. It ſuffer'd much by a great Fire in 1619, but the whole has been ſince rebuilt, and the Houſes are finer than before. There are few Places upon the whole more diſagreeable, and few Towns in *Germany* where the Common People are more unpoliſh'd. The Burghers are not to be match'd for Affectedneſs, and their Converſation is inſupportable. The Magiſtrates are all *Lutherans*; nevertheleſs the principal Churches belong to the Catholics. The *Calviniſts* may live in the Town, but cannot hold any Employments, and are oblig'd to go for Worſhip to *Bockenheim* in the County of *Hanau*, and to cauſe their Children to be baptiz'd in the *Lutheran* Churches. The great Church in which the Ceremony

mony of the Emperor's Coronation is perform'd is dark, and by no means proper for ſuch an auguſt Solemnity. You know that *Aix la Chapelle* is properly the Place ſet apart for the Coronation of our Emperors, and *Frankfort* for their Election. But ſince *Maximilian* I. no Emperor has been crown'd at *Aix*. *Frankfort* being ſituate in the Centre of the Empire is much more commodious for all the Princes, but particularly for the Spiritual Electors and for the Elector Palatine, who may ſend for their Equipages by Water and return them back by the ſame Convenience. When *Charles* VI. was crown'd at *Frankfort* in 1711, there was an extraordinary Concourſe of Princes and Noblemen. Certain ſpeculative Gentlemen made two Remarks on this Occaſion, from which they preſag'd two Things. The one was, that the Emperor made his Entrance into this City in cloſe Mourning for the Emperor *Joſeph* his Brother; whereupon they ſaid that *Charles* wore Mourning becauſe he foreſaw that he ſhould be the laſt Emperor of his Family. The ſecond was, that as *Charles* return'd from the Church inveſted with all the Marks of Sovereignty, *Charlemain*'s Sword had like to have dropp'd out of the Scabbard; which the Elector of *Triers* of the *Lorrain* Family obſerving, catch'd hold of the Sword, and put it in again before it was quite fallen out of the Scabbard. Upon this, the ſame Calculators of Nativities ſaid it was an Omen that the Emperor would never have a quiet Reign, and that he would always be in a Situation that would oblige him to draw his Sword for his Defence *.

* Theſe ſharp-ſighted Gentlemen were not ſo happy as to foreſee the Marriage which has lately united the Families of *Auſtria* and *Lorrain*, and brought the latter within View of the Imperial Crown, of which the Elector of *Triers* ſaving the Sword in the Scabbard ſeems to have been a remarkable Omen.

As to Perſons of great Diſtinction at *Frankfort*, they are very few. The Chief are the Princeſs-Dowager of *Naſſau-Ouſingen*, born Princeſs of *Loveſtein*; the Count *de Degenfeldt (Schomberg)* * Major-General of the King of *Pruſſia*'s Forces, and a Commander of the Order of the *Black Eagle*; and finally, Madame *la Raugrave* † Daughter of *Charles-Lewis* Elector Palatine: She is the laſt of the Blood of the Proteſtant *Palatine* Princes. The Senate of *Frankfort*, in conſideration of her great Age, and in reſpect to her Birth, has granted her the Liberty of keeping a *Calviniſt* Chaplain to preach in her own Houſe. Sometimes the Prince *de la Tour* and *Taxis* ‖ Hereditary Poſt-Maſter of the Empire reſides at *Frankfort*. His Houſe is a great Relief to Foreigners. ** His Princeſs is a Lady of very great Merit, and has the Soul and Sentiments of a Queen. In the Houſes of the Perſons that I have mention'd there's an Aſſembly of both Sexes every Evening; but take them one with another they are very thin except at the Fairs, when there's a vaſt Reſort of Nobility and Gentry. Moſt of the Electors and Princes of the Empire have their Agents at *Frankfort*, to whom they give the Title of Reſidents; but thoſe Gentlemen are not a jot the more reſpected for it, moſt of them being Merchants of the City of *Frankfort* it ſelf, who ſollicit the Title in order to be exempt from the Authority of the Senate, and from the Payment of the Cuſtoms, and to qualify themſelves

* He was the King of *Pruſſia*'s Plenipotentiary to the King of *Great Britain*, and is returned to *Frankfort*, where he is Miniſter from the King of *Pruſſia* to the Circle of the *Rhine*.

† This Lady died *An.* 1733.

‖ Since the Author was at *Frankfort* the Prince *Alexander de la Tour* and *Taxis* who married a Princeſs of *Brandenbourg-Bareith*, reſides in this City and is building a Houſe there.

** She is *Louiſa-Anne-Frances* of *Lobkowitz*, Daughter to the late Prince *Leopold* of *Lobkowitz*, who was the Empreſs's chief Steward till 1708.

ſelves to place over their Doors the Arms of the Princes to whom they ſend the News-Papers.

The Count *de Degenfeldt* makes ſuch a Figure here that he deſerves a more particular mention. He is a Nobleman of good Extraction. He is a Native of the *Palatinate*, and ſpent his Youth in the Service of the Elector-Palatine. He was at that Time a *Calviniſt*, but turn'd Catholic. Some Years after, he was reconcil'd to his former Communion, and marry'd in *England* a Couſin of his, the Daughter of the Duke *de Schomberg*, with whom he had a very great Eſtate. He has alſo a conſiderable Expectancy from Madame *la Raugrave* a *Palatine*, his Aunt*. The Relation of M. *de Degenfeldt* to this Lady, brings to my mind the Hiſtory of the Mother of Madame *la Raugrave*, who as I have obſerv'd was a *Degenfeldt*. I have choſe to give it you from what was told me by the late Madame of *France*, and from very good Memoirs that have been put into my Hands. I have plac'd this Hiſtory as a Tranſaction in the Time of the ancient *Germans*; and as I deſign'd to inſert it in a Work which I have undertaken, for want of ſomething elſe to employ my Time, I chuſe to do it by way of a Diſcourſe from Madame the late Electoreſs of *Hanover* to her Daughter-in-law. I herewith ſend you the entire Hiſtory, and at the End of it you will find the Key. As I fancy you are quite diſengag'd in the Country, I don't apprehend that the reading of it will be Loſs of your Time. I rather fear you won't like it; but in either caſe 'twill be your own Fault; I don't force you to read; you may if you pleaſe let *Gertrude* alone.

* This Lady died at *Frankfort* in *Feb.* 1733.

Hiſtory of GERTRUDE *a* Marcoman *Lady.*

THE Hiſtory of *Gertrude*, of which I propoſe to give you, my Princeſs, a Relation, is properly the Hiſtory of the Extinction of my Family; for the fatal Paſſion of my Brother King *Malcolm* for that Lady, is in all appearance the Reaſon that there are no more left in my Family than three Princeſſes*, and my ſelf.

There was ſuch a Harmony in Sentiments betwixt my Brother and me that it united us in the ſtricteſt Friendſhip. We had been brought up together in *Belgium* †, where the King my Father had been oblig'd to take Refuge, that he might be nearer at hand to receive Succours from *Alfred* King of *Albion*, Father of the Queen my Mother, againſt the *Romans*, who after a long and bloody War had turn'd him out of his Dominions. That King amus'd him a long while with fair Promiſes; but the Miſunderſtanding which there was at that Time between him and the States of his Kingdom, added to a certain Indolence in his natural Temper, hinder'd him from ſeeing the Effect of them; and the King my Father did not live long enough to be Witneſs of the Peace which the *Romans* were at length oblig'd by his Allies to conclude. This was not an advantageous Peace for *Malcolm* my Brother, becauſe in order to obtain it he was oblig'd to yield a Part of his Dominions to the Prince of the ‖ *Boyens*, an Ally of the *Romans*, and upon theſe Terms he was left in quiet poſſeſſion of the reſt.

When

* Madame the Abbeſs of *Maubriſſon*, Siſter to Madame the Electoreſs of *Hanover*, who is ſuppoſed to be the Perſon that ſpeaks here; Madame the Ducheſs of *Hanover*, Mother to the Empreſs *Amelia*, and Madame the Princeſs of *Condé*.

† At *Rhenen*, a ſmall Town in the Province of *Utrecht*.

‖ The *Upper Palatinate* yielded to the Elector of *Bavaria* by the Treaty of *Weſtphalia*.

When my Brother ſaw himſelf eſtabliſh'd on the Throne, he thought of marrying. His Miniſters propos'd the Princeſs of the *Catti* as the fitteſt Match for him, and aſſur'd him that beſides her illuſtrious Extraction he could not marry a more beautiful Princeſs, or one of a better Temper. My Brother who only alter'd his Condition for Reaſons of State, was willing enough to follow their Advice, and accordingly eſpous'd her. The Marriage at firſt prov'd very happy; the Queen his Wife had her ſhare of Beauty, and tho' her Temper was very different from what it had been repreſented to my Brother, yet ſhe ſo cunningly diſguis'd it for ſome time that this Prince thought himſelf very happy in his Choice. But their Agreement was of a ſhort Duration; the Queen's true Humour ſoon diſcovered it ſelf: It appear'd that ſhe was ill-natur'd, and intolerably high-ſpirited; of an odd ſullen Temper, always ready to contradict, and frequently ſubject to Chagrin, of which ſhe herſelf knew not the Cauſe, and which ſhe vented upon all that approach'd her without Diſtinction. The King my Brother was of a Temper quite the reverſe: He lov'd Diverſions, was civil, affable, naturally gay, beneficent; and I don't ſpeak it out of Partiality in favour of a Brother whoſe Memory is ſtill dear to me, but I'll be bold to ſay, that if he had not been quite ſo choleric, he would have been the moſt accompliſh'd Prince of his Time. Nevertheleſs he bore with his Wife's ill Humours very patiently at firſt, and endeavour'd to reclaim her by gentle Uſage; but when he ſaw that all the Pains he took were to no purpoſe, he reſolv'd at length to ſeek out ſome other Amuſement.

The Beauty of *Gertrude*, Maid of Honour to the Queen his Wife, had for a long time ſmitten him, but hitherto he had only diſcover'd his Paſſion to her by his Glances, for fear of diſguſting the Queen.

Gertrude

Gertrude who perceiv'd that my Brother did not look upon her with Indifference, affected to ſhun every Opportunity that Prince might take of revealing his Love to her. But Fortune favour'd my Brother, who being one day with his Queen in her Apartment, when the Diſcourſe fell upon Jewels, perceiv'd that the Princeſs had left off wearing a certain Bracelet of which he had made her a Preſent, and aſking her what ſhe had done with it, the Queen told him that ſhe believ'd ſhe had laid it up in a Caſket of which ſhe had the Key in her Pocket. She made one of her Maids fetch it, and open'd it, but the Bracelet was not there, at which ſhe ſeem'd uneaſy. This my Brother obſerv'd, and taking a Pleaſure in making her more uneaſy, he ſaid to her, tho' in a manner that ſhew'd he did not think as he ſpoke, that ſhe had undoubtedly ſome Gallant in a Corner, to whom ſhe had either given that Bracelet, or who had ſtole it from her. Theſe Words, tho' deliver'd in jeſt, made a deep Impreſſion upon the Queen, and as it was her Nature ſoon to take fire, ſhe was ſtung to the quick at what he had ſaid, and forgetting the Reſpect ſhe ow'd to the King her Huſband, was in ſuch a Paſſion with him that ſhe let fall ſome Words that were very affronting. My Brother who was naturally mettleſome and fiery, and far from expecting any ſuch Treatment, made her anſwer, that if ſhe continued to forget her ſelf after that manner, he would find ways and means to humble her. Upon this he went out of the Room abruptly, and paſſing through the Antichamber, met the fair *Gertrude.* Such was his Diſguſt that inſtead of being upon the reſerve as he had been, he had a long Converſation with her, and found her ſo ſprightly and good-natur'd that he was compleatly charm'd with her. He declar'd his Love to her, and ſhe was ſo artful that

tho'

tho' ſhe gave him no Hopes, yet ſhe did not rebuff him.

When my Brother was retir'd, *Gertrude* went into the Apartment of the Queen her Miſtreſs, who plac'd her whole Confidence in her. That Princeſs no ſooner ſaw her but ſhe made a thouſand Complaints of the King's Treatment of her. *Gertrude* ſeem'd to ſympathize in her Reſentment, and believing that the Queen could not fail to know that the King had talk'd with her in the Antichamber, ſhe told her that the Prince having met her in her Paſſage gave her an angry Account of what had paſſed; and that ſhe had done all ſhe could to pacify him, but to no purpoſe: At the ſame time ſhe blam'd the King's Proceeding; and encourag'd by the Liberty which the Queen gave her, told her that if ſhe who was but a private Gentlewoman was ſo treated by any Huſband, ſhe would never pardon him tho' he were a King. She added ſeveral other Sayings which inſtead of pacifying this ſilly Queen, did but exaſperate her the more.

In the mean time, *Malcolm*, who was impatient to know the Succeſs of his Amour, wrote a Letter to *Gertrude* which he ſent her by one of his chief Domeſtics, together with a rich Diamond Equipage. But the artful *Gertrude* whoſe Aim was to draw on his Paſſion, rather than to gratify it, was far from yielding to his firſt Attacks, and ſent him back the Diamonds, tho' with a modeſt and reſpectful Anſwer, wherein ſhe deſir'd him to talk no more to her of Love. My Brother was too deeply ſmitten to be repuls'd; he doubled his Preſents, was aſſiduous, and eager in his Courtſhip; and as 'tis very rare for a King of his amiable Perſonage to meet with long Reſiſtance, *Gertrude* abated of her Shyneſs by Degrees, and at length diſcovered that ſhe was not inſenſible of Love. Their Correſpondence which did not exceed the Bounds of Honour, was kept

kept ſecret for a conſiderable time, but made the greater Blaze when it was known. *Malcolm* being one day with his Wife, happen'd, without perceiving it, to drop a Letter which the Queen took up, and found to be the Hand-writing of *Gertrude*. The Letter being written in *Latin* made the Queen the more curious to know what was in it; and ſhe gave it to her Couſin, Prince *Valamir*, deſiring him to unfold the Contents of it to her. This Prince was ſo unwiſe as to ſatisfy her Curioſity, and acquainted her that *Gertrude* by this Letter aſſur'd the King that he had gain'd her Heart. You will eaſily imagine how much the Queen was ruffled when ſhe heard of this Intrigue: She could not contain herſelf; and without giving ear to the Arguments made uſe of by *Valamir*, ſhe ran immediately to *Gertrude*'s Apartment in the Palace, who by good luck was gone abroad. The Queen thinking her Caſket was in *Gertrude*'s Cloſet caus'd it to be broke open, and finding it there, open'd it, and took out all the Letters, of which ſeveral that appear'd to be from the King her Huſband left her no room to doubt of that Prince's extraordinary Paſſion for *Gertrude*, and of the Intimacy there was between them. My Brother was quickly inform'd of what the Queen had been doing, but conceal'd his Uneaſineſs, ſhew'd his Wife no manner of Reſentment, and only ſent a Caution to *Gertrude* not to return to the Palace. *Malcolm*'s Silence deceiv'd the Queen, who indeed was not a Lady of very great Penetration, ſo that ſhe flatter'd herſelf the King might poſſibly be ignorant of the Outrage ſhe had committed; and upon this Suppoſition ſhe thought it her beſt way to diſſemble her Hatred and Wrath againſt *Gertrude*. She pretended therefore to be very uneaſy for fear of what had happen'd to her, caus'd a Search to be made for her ſeveral days, and ſeem'd very much dejected at her Abſence.

Abſence. She hop'd by all theſe Demonſtrations of Friendſhip to decoy her back to the Palace, in order then to be compleatly reveng'd of her.

Thus Matters ſtood when the King of the *Suevi*, the Brother-in-law of the Queen my Siſter-in-law, came to Court with the Queen his Wife. This Prince having obſerv'd the Queen's Melancholy on ſeveral Occaſions, aſk'd her the Reaſon of it one day as they ſate at Table. 'You muſt not be ſurpriz'd, 'ſaid *Malcolm*, to ſee the Queen my Wife out of 'Temper; 'tis her common Infirmity, and very of-'ten ſhe herſelf knows not the Cauſe of it. My Ail-'ment is but too real (reply'd the Queen in a great 'Pet;) and (then addreſſing herſelf to her Huſband) 'ſaid ſhe, it does not at all become you whoſe diſ-'honourable Amours have been the only Cauſe of 'my Diſorder, to inſinuate as if it were but imagi-'nary.' This Anſwer made in ſo public a manner, ſo nettled my Brother that he turn'd pale for meer Vexation, and not being able to curb his Paſſion, forgot his Dignity ſo far as to ſtrike her; upon which the unfortunate Princeſs roſe from Table, and retir'd in Tears to her own Apartment. My Brother, whoſe Paſſion was always as ſoon over as it was eaſily kindled, was ſorry in a very few Moments after for what he had done, made his Excuſes to the King and Queen of the *Suevi*, and riſing from Table, went with them to his Wife's Apartment, where he aſk'd her Pardon for what had paſs'd. This Atonement, which the Queen did not expect ſo ſoon, touch'd her to the quick: The King and ſhe embrac'd each other, and exchang'd their Promiſes to forget as well as to forgive every Offence. But would you believe it? that fickle, fantaſtical Creature my Siſter-in-law chang'd her Mind all on a ſudden, and when her Huſband came in the Evening with an Intention to ſpend the Night with her, ſhe abſolutely refus'd to let him bed with her unleſs he would

would reſolve to deliver up *Gertrude* to her. *Malcolm*, who was ſtill aſham'd at what he had done in his laſt Fury, receiv'd ſo violent a Propoſition with more Patience than he would have done upon another Occaſion. He endeavour'd by fair Words to pacify his Wife, aſſuring her that nothing criminal had ever paſs'd between him and *Gertrude*, and that tho' he had correſponded with the Girl by Letters, it was not out of any Love he had for her, ſo much as to know whether it was true that ſhe wrote as good *Latin* as he had been told ſhe did. Tho' this Speech of his was not very probable, yet as People are eaſily inclin'd to believe what they wiſh to be true, the Queen ſuffer'd herſelf to be at laſt perſuaded, and was reconciled to her Huſband without inſiſting any farther on the Sacrifice ſhe at firſt demanded.

The Emperor being come to ſpend ſome Time at *Pluibourg*, ſummon'd an Aſſembly thither of the Princes of the Empire. My Brother went thither with the Queen his Wife; but the Conſequence was that they were more embroil'd than ever; and my Siſter-in-law was ſo unadviſed as to let *Cæſar* and his Court be Witneſſes of certain Brawls, which for her own Intereſt as well as her Huſband's, ſhe ought to have carefully confin'd within the Limits of her own Houſhold. 'Tis true that my Brother had no very great Reſpect for her, and he lov'd *Gertrude* more than ever. Being hindred by a ſlight Indiſpoſition from going to *Montpayen* where he kept her at one of his Houſes, not a Day paſs'd but he ſent an Expreſs to know how ſhe did, and the Queen's ill Temper, who no doubt had better have try'd good-natur'd Methods to reclaim him, only incens'd him againſt her, and made him the fonder of *Gertrude*.

The Aſſembly of the Princes of *Germany* being over, and the Emperor return'd to *Rome*, my Brother

ther ſet out for *Montpayen* the Capital of his Kingdom, and gave orders for his Queen to follow him next Day. But for a Reaſon which I never could dive into, the Princeſs inſtead of obeying him ſtay'd a Month longer at *Pluibourg*, without vouchſafing to let the King her Huſband know the Reaſon of her delay; and not only ſo, but when ſhe came to *Montpayen*, ſhe had the Aſſurance to go with a bold Face to her Huſband's Apartment, without knowing how he would take it: But the Prince who had juſt Reaſon to be angry, foreſeeing that ſhe was like enough to take ſuch a ſtep, had given orders to refuſe her Entrance; wherefore ſhe was oblig'd to retire to her Apartment, whither a Captain of the Guards came in a Moment after, to tell her from the King that ſhe was a Priſoner.

This unhappy Princeſs bore her Diſgrace very weakly. She repented, but too late, of having been ſo imprudent as to contravene the Orders of the King her Huſband; and hoping to work upon his Good-nature, ſhe wrote him a moſt ſubmiſſive Letter, begging his Pardon for her Diſobedience, and intreating him to reſtore her to her Liberty. My Brother ſent her an Anſwer, wherein he only gave her the Title of the Princeſs of *Cattia*. He told her 'that having conſider'd the Diſagreement there 'was betwixt his Temper and her's, he reſolved to 'be divorc'd from her, and that ſhe would do well 'herſelf to give her Conſent to it; which if ſhe did 'with a good Grace, he would reſtore her to her Li-'berty and ſettle a Revenue on her ſuitable to her 'Rank.'

This Anſwer was a Thunder-ſtroke to my Siſter-in-law; ſhe rav'd and tore like a mad Woman. She was for a long while like one out of her Senſes, but recovering them at length by the help of her Women, and conſulting with thoſe that had the greateſt ſhare of her Confidence, ſhe ſent the King

word that he was Maſter, and might make uſe of his Authority, but that ſhe would never conſent to the Divorce.

My Brother who had fix'd his Reſolution, and ſaw no other Way to get poſſeſſion of *Gertrude* than by marrying that Girl who had preſum'd to ſet ſo high a Price upon her Favours, took off the Maſk, notify'd his Deſign to the Court, and in a few days after, the Marriage was perform'd in the manner that you know is practis'd in *Germany* by Princes who marry beneath themſelves, which excludes the Children by ſuch *Venter* from ſucceeding to the Father's Eſtate. As ſoon as he was marry'd, he reſtor'd the Queen to her Liberty, and acquainted her, 'That by the Advice and Conſent of the Prieſts 'of his Kingdom whom he had cauſed to be aſ-'ſembled, he had marry'd *Gertrude*. That the 'Thing being done and paſt Remedy, he hop'd ſhe 'would reſolve to make herſelf eaſy. That how-'ever, he would always treat her as a Princeſs; 'that ſhe ſhould be welcome to continue in her A-'partment at the Palace; that ſhe ſhould have her 'Guards to attend her, and that he had ſet apart a 'ſufficient Fund for her Maintenance; but that he 'expected ſhe would be ſo complaiſant as to ac-'knowledge *Gertrude* hereafter for the lawful 'Queen.'

My Siſter-in-law who then ſaw that her Diſgrace was infallible, gave herſelf up to Complaints and Tears, wrote to the King her Huſband in the moſt moving Language, and implor'd the Aſſiſtance of the King her Brother: But all was to no purpoſe; ſhe was oblig'd to ſubmit to her Misfortune, and to be patient under an Affliction which ſhe had partly brought upon herſelf by her Folly.

While all this paſs'd, my Brother was at one of his Seats not far * from his Capital, where he caus'd *Gertrude*

* At *Schwetzingen* a League from *Heidelberg*.

Gertrude to be treated as a Queen, and not long after carried her to *Montpayen* where the ſight of her Royalty was a freſh Mortification to the Queen my Siſter-in-law. However, the unfortunate Princeſs not yet deſpairing of the means of reclaiming her Huſband, was reſolv'd to make the laſt Attempt to turn that Prince's Heart. She dreſs'd herſelf in the moſt gay and rich Apparel that ſhe could get, and taking her Children along with her, went to meet the King her Huſband in the Room next to the Hall where he was at Table with *Gertrude*, and thro' which he muſt neceſſarily return. When he appear'd, ſhe threw herſelf with her Children at his Feet, claſp'd his Knees, conjur'd him with Tears in her Eyes to look with Pity on an unhappy Princeſs whom he had formerly thought fit to make his Wife, and to conſider that the Affront he put upon her by divorcing her, would be a Reproach to thoſe very Children of whom he had been ſo fond. My Brother ſeem'd to be melted at ſo moving a Spectacle, look'd for ſome Moments on his Wife and Children with Tears in his Eyes, and he was juſt ready to raiſe her from the Ground, when *Gertrude* who was at his Heels, fearing what might be the Conſequence of the Confuſion that ſhe ſaw him in, talk'd earneſtly to him in the *Tuſcan* Language, ſaying, *Remember*, my Lord, *what you promis'd me.* Theſe few Words wrought ſo much on the unſteady Mind of my Brother that he only lifted up his Hands to Heaven and went on, ſhewing by the Trouble he was under, how little he was Maſter of his Reaſon upon this Occaſion. The Queen my Siſter-in-law remain'd for a while ſpeechleſs, but Fury and Deſpair quickly ſeiz'd her Soul. She roſe up and ran into her Cloſet, where ſnatching up a Dagger* ſhe came back again with an Inten-

* 'Twas a Piſtol which the Count *de Hohenlo* ſnatch'd from her,

tion to ſtick it into her Rival's Heart. But the Rage ſhe was in having ſo confounded her that ſhe had not a Thought of concealing that Inſtrument of her Revenge, it was perceiv'd by one of the chief Courtiers who pluck'd it from her juſt as ſhe was going into the Cloſet where my Brother was with *Gertrude*. That Prince hearing a Noiſe ſo near him ran out, and demanded what was the matter. 'Tis I, (ſaid the Queen very couragiouſly) 'who was coming to 'revenge my ſelf and you too on the Monſter which 'diſunites us; but that Traytor there (ſaid ſhe, 'pointing to the Man that had wreſted the Dagger 'out of her Hands) has depriv'd me of the only 'Opportunity that I could call a Pleaſure.—Prin-'ceſs, (ſaid the King to her very calmly) don't in-'dulge your ſelf any longer in ſuch extravagant 'Paſſions, if you are unwilling that I ſhould uſe 'you roughly.' Then he retir'd with *Gertrude*, and my Siſter-in-law return'd to her Apartment in a Temper which you may eaſily imagine.

Clodius, who now governs the Empire, being at that time proclaim'd Emperor, this Princeſs made her Complaints to him, and deſir'd him to reconcile *Malcolm* to her. But *Cæſar* having excus'd himſelf, my Siſter-in-law who could no longer bear the Preſence of her Rival, retir'd to the King her Brother, there to wait the End of her Misfortunes. My Brother liv'd afterwards very lovingly with his new Spouſe, and had by her four Sons and as many Daughters. But Death having at laſt robb'd him of a Perſon ſo dear to him, the Prince was ſo afflicted for the Loſs of her that he ſpent two Years in continual Sorrow, and at length himſelf paid the ſame Tribute to Nature.

He

her, and ſhot into the Air from the Window. But here it was abſolutely neceſſary to call it a Dagger, Fire-Arms being not known at the Time of which this Hiſtory bears date.

He left but one Son and a Daughter by his lawful Spouſe who ſurviv'd him ſome Years. The King my Nephew was marry'd, but he was of ſuch a melancholy Temper, his Humour was ſo different from the Queen's, and there was ſo little Love betwixt them, that he died without Iſſue. With him I have ſeen my Family utterly extinct, its Dominions transferr'd to the Power of a Prince who is hardly related to us, and my Country abandon'd to the moſt diſmal Deſolation. For my Niece having marry'd *Meroveus*, Brother to *Arioviſto* King of the *Gauls*, the latter who is an ambitious Prince and goes to War upon every the leaſt Pretence, aſſerted the Rights of his Siſter-in-law without Delay, and pleading that ſhe ought to ſucceed to the Inheritance of the King her Brother, notwithſtanding the *Salic* Law eſtabliſh'd in *Germany*, he ſent a formidable Army into the Dominions of my deceaſed Nephew, where the *Gauls* at firſt meeting with no Reſiſtance, committed enormous Cruelties, and extended their Fury even to the Violation of the Tomb of the Kings my Anceſtors, whoſe dead Bodies were ſtripp'd and expoſed to the Caprice of the unruly Soldiers: Calamities, which perhaps would never have happen'd, had it not been for my Brother's fatal Paſſion for *Gertrude*; becauſe in all Appearance if he had liv'd in a good Underſtanding with his lawful Spouſe, he would have had more Children by her, and I ſhould not have had the Vexation to ſee the Throne of my Fathers poſſeſs'd by a foreign Family.

KEY to the Hiſtory of GERTRUDE.

Albion, England.
Alfrede I. James I. *King of* England.
Arioviſto, Lewis XIV.
Belgium, Holland.

Boyens, (*Prince of*) *the Elector of* Bavaria.
Catti, (*Princeſs of*) *the Princeſs of* Heſſe-Caſſel.
Cæſar, *the* Emperor.
Clodius, *the Emperor* Leopold.
Germania, Germany.
Gertrude, *the Baroneſs of* Degenfeldt.
Malcolm, Charles-Lewis *Elector* Palatine.
Meroveus, Philip *of* France, *Duke of* Orleans, *Brother to* Lewis XIV.
Montpayen, Heidelberg.
Pluibourg, Ratiſbon.
Romans, *the* Imperialiſts.
Rome, Vienna.
Suevi, (*King of*) *the Margrave of* Baden-Dourlach.

End of the Hiſtory of Gertrude.

I have not ſcrupled to give you this Hiſtory, becauſe all the Perſons who are Subjects of it are dead. I wrote it very much in haſte, for the Diverſion of the Princeſs *d' A*——, ſo that you muſt not be ſurpriz'd if you don't meet with all that Exactneſs which there ought to be in this little Narrative; tho' I muſt tell you again that every Tittle of it is true, ſo that you may read it as a Hiſtory, and not as a Romance.

I have fix'd my Reſolution, and now am ſetting out for *Rome*; therefore pleaſe to direct to me at *Venice*. I go to-morrow to a great Hunting-Match that is to be at *Darmſtadt*, where I ſhall ſtay two Days: From thence I ſhall go and ſpend two more with the Count *de Hanau*; and then will I begin my Pilgrimage to the Holy Places. I am moſt entirely,

&c.

LET-

LETTER XXII.

SIR, *Munich, April* 2. 1730.

SINCE you received my laſt I have done and ſeen a great many Things. On the 23d of *March* I ſet out from *Frankfort* for DARMSTADT, the Capital of the upper County of *Catzenellenbogen*, and the Reſidence of *Erneſt-Lewis* Landgrave of *Heſſe-Darmſtadt* *.

This Town is extremely ſmall, and only encloſed with Palliſadoes. If the Prince's Palace had been finiſh'd according to its Model, it would have been one of the greateſt and moſt magnificent in *Europe*, and there might have been Lodgings for the Emperor, and all the nine Electors of the Empire. It would have been bigger than the Town, and have

* *Philip* the Magnanimous, Landgrave of *Heſſe-Caſſel*, was in 1518 Sovereign of all the Country of *Heſſe*. He died in 1567, and left four Sons who ſhar'd his Dominions and form'd the four Branches of *Heſſe-Caſſel*, *Heſſe-Marpurg*, *Heſſe-Rheinfels*, and *Heſſe-Darmſtadt*. The Landgraves *Lewis de Marpurg* and *Philip de Rheinfels* had no Iſſue, but their Nephew *Maurice* of *Caſſel* having 18 Children, *Erneſt* one of the Sons reviv'd a Branch of *Rheinfels* which was divided into thoſe of *Rotenburg* and *Vanfried*, that are ſtill ſubſiſting. The Poſterity of *George* I. Landgrave of *Darmſtadt* was altogether as fruitful, and form'd the Branches of *Darmſtadt*, *Butzbach*, *Hombourg*, and *Lauterbach*, ſome of which are extinct. The Landgrave-Regent is one of the ſixteen Children of the Landgrave *Lewis* VI. Great-Grandſon of *George* I. There are at preſent theſe ſix Branches of the Family of *Heſſe*, *viz.* 1. *Heſſe-Caſſel*, 2. *Heſſe-Philipſtall*, 3. *Heſſe-Rheinfels-Rotenbourg*, 4. *Heſſe-Rheinfels-Vanfried*, 5. *Heſſe-Darmſtadt*, 6. *Heſſe-Hombourg*.

coſt immenſe Sums: That Part which is finiſh'd makes a very grand Appearance. But all thoſe magnificent Works which the Landgrave Regent at firſt carried on with very great Vigour are entirely diſcontinu'd, and there's no Appearance that they will ever be taken in hand again. The old Palace is much more commodious than it ſeems to be; its Apartments being convenient, and richly furniſh'd. The Landgrave does not live in the Palace, but leads a very retir'd Life in a little Houſe upon the Square where he is never ſeen but upon Sundays and Holidays. He amuſes himſelf in turning of Ivory, making Chymical Experiments, and in Drawing. He loves Hunting above all things whatſoever. He delights in Agriculture, and in Muſic, and it may ſtrictly be ſaid that he is never unemploy'd. He has very great Knowledge natural and acquir'd. He has ſeen a great many Countries, and tho' ſixty Years of Age he ſtill looks well, and his grey Hairs, not to call them white, give him a venerable Air. He ſits a Horſe very well, walks well, and ſeems to enjoy perfect Health. His Wife was *Dorothy* of *Brandenbourg-Onoltzbach*, who died in 1705. They ſay that he lately married *N*—— *de Spiegel* the Widow of Count *Seibelſdorff* a Lieutenant-General in the Service of *Bavaria*. Be that as it will, the Marriage is not public, and the Lady ſtill goes by the Name of her former Huſband by whom ſhe has Children. 'Tis true that the Landgrave pays her very great Diſtinction, and indeed ſhe is very amiable.

This Prince commonly dines at a little Table ſpread only for four People; but on Sundays and Holidays he goes to the Palace, and dines with his Son at a Table cover'd for ſixteen Gueſts, and ſups with the Ladies who are never ſeen at Court but upon thoſe Days. 'Tis a very hard matter to come at the Speech of the Landgrave, and much more

to

to that of his only Son the hereditary Prince. The Hunting-Officers are the only Perſons that have the Privilege of Acceſs to them; for which reaſon this is not one of the moſt entertaining Courts; and a Man is under a neceſſity of throwing himſelf into the Town, where indeed there are a great many People of Merit who are civil to Foreigners.

The hereditary Prince *Lewis*, the only Son of the Landgrave, who was born the 5th of *April* 1691, is a handſome Man, has a noble Air, dances well, mounts a Horſe well, has Vivacity, Spirit, and Politeneſs, but is often thoughtful, melancholy, and goes for Retirement to the Woods, where he is paſſionately fond of Hunting; but is apt to create himſelf Uneaſineſs, and does not know how to diſſemble it. Tho' he has all the Qualities neceſſary to ſhine in Company yet he ſees but very little. He married *Charlotta-Chriſtina* of *Hanau*, who dying in 1726, left him three Sons and two Daughters, the eldeſt of which was then ſeven Years of Age. By virtue of this Marriage the Prince is Heir to the Count of *Hanau*'s Eſtate in *Alſace*, and to all his Freeholds in general, which will be a very rich Succeſſion.

Nevertheleſs the Court of *Darmſtadt* is very numerous. The Landgrave has a great many Counſellors of State, Gentlemen of the Bedchamber and Court, and a greater Number ſtill of Officers of the Venery, and Huntſmen. There is not a Province in *Germany* more proper for Hunting, nor in *Europe* where there are more Deer. 'Tis a flat even Country, and a gravelly Soil interſperſed with Woods thro' which there are cut noble Roads. I have ſeen the Deer come up cloſe to the Palliſadoes of the Town, and at their Rutting-time I have heard them cry as I lay in my Bed. This great plenty of Deer is extremely troubleſome to the Peaſants who are abroad day and night to watch their Fields. The

Landgrave and the hereditary Prince are ſo jealous of their Game that they reckon it as bad a Crime as Murder for any one to kill a Deer; and tho' 'tis an eſtabliſh'd Cuſtom among almoſt all Sovereigns to puniſh with Severity all thoſe that kill a Creature which God however certainly created for the Uſe of all Mankind, yet there is no Prince who obſerves this Law more ſtrictly than the Landgrave.

I cannot give you a more certain Account of the Revenues of this Prince than of thoſe of all the other Sovereigns. 'Tis ſaid that he has 5 or 600000 Florins *per Ann.* I am not very well inform'd of the number of his Troops, for I have only ſeen his Regiment of Guards which is in very compleat Order. His Horſe-Guards are alſo very fine Troops, and commanded by the General *Miltitz*, who is at the ſame time Grand Marſhal of the Court, the Honours of which he performs in a very handſome manner.

Tho' the Soil at *Darmſtadt* is very gravelly, it produces excellent Pulſe. I have ſeen Aſparagus at the Landgrave's Table, three of which weigh'd a Pound, tho' indeed they were not altogether ſo nice. I remember that in a former Journey which I made hither in the Month of *December*, there were brought to the Landgrave in ſeveral Pots of Porcellain, a Dwarf Cherry-Tree laden with Cherries; Strawberry-Plants, an Almond-Tree, and in ſhort, the Fruits of all the Seaſons.

The intended Hunting-Match, for what reaſon I know not, was put off; and as I came hither only to ſee it, I ſtaid but one Day and went to HANAU The Count and the Princeſs of *Hanau* were but lately return'd from *Alſace*. The Town of *Hanau*. is ſituate on a large Plain to the right of the *Main*. 'Tis divided into two Wards, the old and the new Town: The latter is much bigger than the former: It was built by the *Walloon* Proteſtants, who, during

ring the Duke of *Alva*'s Perſecution under *Philip* II. King of *Spain*, quitted the *Netherlands* and came to ſettle at *Hanau*, which they fortify'd, and built in ſuch a manner that all the Streets run parallel. The Count keeps ſeveral Companies in pay, from which he makes Detachments for the Quota he is oblig'd to furniſh, as a Member of the Circle of the *Upper Rhine*.

The *Walloons* who are ſettled at *Hanau* have eſtabliſhed ſeveral Manufactures there, eſpecially Woollen Stuffs. The *Calviniſts*, the *Lutherans*, and the *Jews* are tolerated here, and as for us Catholics, we may go to Maſs where we pleaſe.

The Count's Palace is in the old Town: 'Tis an ancient Building, and makes no great Appearance, but the Apartments are commodious, and very richly furniſh'd. The Count has a very pretty Pleaſure-Houſe a quarter of a League from *Hanau*, call'd PHILIPSRUHE, *(i. e. Philip's Repoſe)* and built by the late Count *de Hanau*, Brother to the Count Regent *. 'Twas at this Seat that I found the Count of *Hanau*. There was a very numerous Attendance, and I heartily wiſh'd I could have ſtaid there a few days. Few Princes in the Empire live more elegantly than the Count *de Hanau*. The Lady who directs the whole Houſhold, and keeps all things in wonderful Order is the Princeſs † who is of the Family of *Brandenbourg-Anſpach*, and Siſter to the Queen of *England*. At this Court you have all the Liberty that can be deſired. When you firſt come a Chamber is provided for your Lodging, and a Footman order'd to wait on you. Every Morning an Officer comes to know what you will pleaſe to have for Breakfaſt; and there's every Thing to be had that you call for. If afterwards you have a mind to go out a Hunting, you ſend to the Great Huntſman

* This Count died in 1736.

† She died at *Hanau* after a very long Illneſs.

man for a Guide and to the Count for Horſes out of his Stables. If you come back too late for Dinner at Court, you are ſerv'd very elegantly in your own Apartment. In the Evening when you are retir'd from Company, a Butler takes care to provide you with Wine and Beer. The Servants of Foreigners diet with thoſe of the Count. His own Table which is commonly for eighteen Gueſts is ſerved as well as moſt, and a ſecond Table is ſerv'd with the ſame Magnificence. The Count has a very great Family, and lives every way like a Prince; and indeed 'tis his own Fault that he is not one, for he has had the Imperial Diploma for it a long while, but he does not care to make uſe of it; ſaying, he had rather be the firſt Count than the loweſt Prince. He is the laſt Male of his Family. After his Death the County of *Hanau* relapſes to the Landgrave of *Heſſe-Caſſel*, according to the Treaty of Confraternity made between the ſeveral Families of *Saxony*, *Heſſe*, and *Hanau*, which imports that the ſaid Families ſhall ſucceed one another. The King of *Poland* as Elector of *Saxony* ought to have had his Share in the Succeſſion to the County of *Hanau*, but his Majeſty by a Treaty yielded his Rights to the Landgrave of *Caſſel*. As to the Lands in *Alſace*, and the Freeholds, they revert, as I told you before, to the Children of the hereditary Prince of *Darmſtadt*.

The Count of *Hanau* ſeems to be much older than he is in reality. He is a very civil Nobleman, and Hunting is a Diverſion of which he is extremely fond, ſo that to kill a Deer upon his Lands is an unpardonable Crime; and the leſſer Game, ſuch as Rabbits, Hares, and Partridges, are equally his Care. All theſe Creatures ſpoil the Fields; but they ſerve for the Count's Amuſement, while the poor Peaſant is oblig'd to pay his Tax, and dares not ſpeak a Word.

From

From *Hanau* to MUNICH I never made a ſtop; but after having travell'd thro' *Wurtzbourg*, *Nurembourg*, and *Augſbourg* arrived here laſt night, and propoſe to ſet out again to-morrow, and after two or three days ſtay at *Saltzbourg* ſhall proceed by the Way of *Tirol* to *Venice*, where I beg you would not fail to let me hear from you.

I am juſt come from attending the Obſequies of *Thereſa-Cunegunda Sobieſki* Electoreſs of *Bavaria*, Mother to the Elector. This Princeſs died lately at *Venice*, to which City ſhe retir'd eighteen Months ago, and her Corpſe is forthwith expected to be interr'd in the Tomb of the Electoral Family. She has left, as 'tis ſaid, near ſix millions of Florins, which, ſince ſhe has made no Will, are to be equally ſhar'd between the four Princes her Sons. She has moreover left a Daughter who is a Nun in a Convent of this City. In 1719, when ſhe took the Habit, I was preſent. She choſe this retir'd Life againſt the Will of her Father the Elector, who did all he could to diſſuade her from it; and ſhe liv'd in great Reputation for her Piety. But to return to the Obſequies of the Electoreſs: The Elector and Electoreſs aſſiſted at them, together with the Elector of *Cologne*, the Duke *Ferdinand*, the Biſhop of *Freiſingen*, the Ducheſs *Ferdinand*, and the two Princes her Sons. Theſe Princes had Cowls upon their Heads, and great Cloaks, which is not one of the moſt becoming Dreſſes. The Family of *Bavaria* obſerves a very ſingular Cuſtom, which is, never to give a black Livery, nor to line their Coaches. I think this reaſonable enough, for it does not look very well in a pompous Funeral.

I am, &c.

LET-

LETTER XXIII.

SIR, *Saltzbourg, April* 2, 1730.

AT my Departute from *Munich* I went and din'd at *Everſberg*, a Village belonging to the Reverend Fathers the Jeſuits, who have a Houſe there which is a large one, and that's all 'tis good for. I went and lay at WASSERBOURG a Town of *Bavaria* built upon a Rock, ſo encompaſs'd with the River *Inn* that 'tis a perfect Peninſula. Mountains and Rocks hang over this Town as if they would cruſh it, and indeed the Place is not worth much Deſcription. It was ſettled as a Dowry on the Electoreſs *Thereſa-Cunigunda Sobieſki* who dy'd laſt Month; but this Princeſs would never live in it, nor indeed do I know any other Prince that would.

After having paſs'd the *Inn* * over a very ſlender wooden Bridge I climb'd a high Montain, got down another, aſcended a third, and ſo I travell'd all the way up Hill and down Hill till I came within two Leagues of *Saltzbourg*, where the Country becomes more paſſable.

The City of SALTZBOURG as well as the whole Archbiſhoprick takes its Name from the River *Saltz* which paſſes thro' the City and Country. It riſes in *Tirol* and loſes itſelf in the *Inn*. The Mountains that are about

* This River riſes in *Tirol* a little above *Inſpruc*, becomes navigable at *Halle*, and loſes itſelf in the *Danube* near *Paſſau*.

about the Town make it not near ſo broad as 'tis long, tho' take it all together 'tis not a large Town. 'Tis very well fortify'd, and has a Caſtle which ſtanding on an Eminence forms as it were a Citadel. 'Tis furniſh'd with a good Arſenal, and all manner of Ammunition, and I have been aſſur'd that of Gunpowder alone there are no leſs than 20000 Quintals. Some Years ago when I was here, Lightning fell ſo near this Magazine that it wanted but half a Foot of penetrating to the Powder, which if it had touch'd I fancy I ſhou'd never have wrote to you more. There is always a Guard of fifty Men at the Caſtle, and the Gariſon of the Town conſiſts of 600 Men who are lodg'd in the Caſerns.

The City of *Saltzbourg* contains finer Edifices than many great Towns. It has a magnificent Cathedral which was conſecrated the 24th of *September* 1628, by an Archbiſhop who was of the Family of the Counts *de Lodron*. 'Tis a vaſt Structure of Free-ſtone, and has a ſtately Front which may be reckon'd the compleateſt in *Germany*. The ſkilful Architect by whom it was directed has very much copy'd the Front of St. *Agnes*'s Church in the Square of *Navona* at *Rome*. It has four Marble Statues bigger than the Life which repreſent St. *Peter*, St. *Paul*, St. *Rupert*, and St. *Virgilius*, of whom the two latter were the firſt Archbiſhops of this See. The whole Church is adorn'd in the inſide with Pilaſtres of the *Corinthian* Order. 'Tis built in the Form of a Croſs with a very high Dome which ſeparates the Nave from the Choir. The high Altar which is at the bottom of the Choir is of Marble, as are the two Chapels that form the Croſs: The Pavement of the Church is of great Squares of Marble of various Colours. 'Tis pity there was not more Inlet for Light, the Dome being the only lightſome Part of it. But as the Church is magnificent the Orna-

Ornaments of the high Altar are more ſo. Upon the Grand Feſtivals it bears a Sun of Gold adorn'd with precious Stones to the Value of 100000 Crowns, a great Croſs of maſſy Gold, and four golden Candleſticks. The Front of the Altar, and the Tabernacle are of maſſy Silver of excellent Workmanſhip.

St. *Rupert* ſurnam'd the Apoſtle of *Bavaria* was the firſt Biſhop of *Saltzbourg* in 582. *Leo* III. whom the Church honour'd as a Saint, erected this Biſhoprick into an Archbiſhoprick in favour of St. *Arnould*, in the Year 798. He had for Suffragans the Biſhops of *Freiſingen*, *Ratiſbon*, *Paſſau*, *Brixen*, *Gurck*, *Chiemſee*, *Seggau*, and *Lavant*.

The Archbiſhop has a Right of Nomination to the four laſt Biſhopricks; only the Nomination to the Biſhoprick of *Gurck* is alternative between this Prelate and the Emperor, as Archduke of *Auſtria*. The four Biſhops bear the Title of Princes of the Empire, and enjoy all the Prerogatives annexed to that high Dignity. Notwithſtanding this, the Archbiſhop never gives them the Preference, and when he talks to them, only compliments them with the Title of *Euer Freuntſchaft*, i. e. *Your Friendſhip*. Service is perform'd in this Metropolis according to the Uſage obſerv'd in St. *Peter*'s Church at *Rome*. The Chapter is compos'd of the Archbiſhop, a Provoſt, a Dean, and twenty four Canons, all Men of Quality, who are only oblig'd to four Months Reſidence, and the reſt of the Time they may go where they pleaſe. Both the Provoſt and Dean have the Croſier and Mitre *. The Archbiſhop, as well as the Elector of *Cologn*, has the Privilege of dreſſing in the Habit of a Cardinal. This Prelate has the Directorſhip of the College of Princes at the Dyet of the Empire alternatively with the Archduke of *Auſtria*. He is moreover *Legatus natus* &

* The Provoſt and Dean of *Paſſau* enjoy the ſame Prerogative.

& perpetuus of the Holy See, and Primate of *Germany*. His Titles are theſe, '*Leopold*, by the 'Grace of God, Archbiſhop of *Saltzbourg*, and 'Prince of the Empire, perpetual Legate of the Holy 'Apoſtolic See of *Rome*, Primate of *Germany*, de-'ſcended of the illuſtrious Family of the Barons of '*Firmian*.'

The Archbiſhop at his coming to the See muſt pay 100000 Crowns to *Rome* for the Pall, but the Country generally raiſes it for him, beſides making a free Gift of the like Sum to its new Prince. The Revenues of this Prelate are about 1500000 Florins a Year. The very Salt which is carried into *Bavaria* and *Swabia* brings him in 30000 Crowns. He is abſolute Maſter of all his Revenues, and accountable to no body for what he lays out. The preſent Archbiſhop is of *Tirol*, of a diſtinguiſh'd Family, but not favour'd much by Fortune. He was born the 26th of *May* 1679, and ſucceeded *Francis-Anthony* the Count *de Harrach*. His Advancement was owing to the Diviſion of the Chapter, who all wanted to be either Biſhops themſelves, or elſe to advance ſome one Friend or Couſin. After a great many Debates and Meſſages ſent forwards and backwards, their Choice fell upon the Baron *de Firmian* who was at that time very infirm, which was the only Thing that procur'd him the Mitre; for the Parties that divided the Chapter united in his Favour, becauſe they thought him a Man not very long-liv'd; but they believ'd however he might live long enough to give each Party time to form its Cabals for advancing that Perſon to the Biſhoprick who they thought would beſt ſerve their Purpoſe. But all thoſe Gentlemen were mightily miſtaken as to the Archbiſhop's Life. For this Prelate, like another Pope *Sixtus* V. loſt all his Infirmities when he found the Mitre, and is very like to outlive many of his Electors.

This

This Prince is tall, has an auſtere haughty Air, ſeldom makes any Compliments, and talks much leſs, except when he is hunting which is all the Pleaſure of his Life. He is almoſt always alone, and generally eats by himſelf. In the Summer-time he keeps altogether in the Country where he is of very difficult Acceſs, and keeps no Retinue, nor Company. He is accus'd of being too thrifty, and I don't know but there may be ſomething in it; but perhaps he would not appear to be quite ſo ſaving if he had ſucceeded any body elſe in the Biſhoprick but the Count *de Harrach*, the moſt generous, noble, and moſt magnificent Prelate of his Time. The Archbiſhop is naturally a Valetudinarian; and under God, he is oblig'd for the Preſervation of his Life to his Phyſician *Gerſner*, a Native of *Vienna*, a Man of great Skill in his Profeſſion, and of ſtrict Honour and Integrity, who has got ſo much the length of the Prelate's Foot that he is almoſt the only Perſon that dares to ſpeak to him with Freedom. The Count *d'Arco* Son to the Archbiſhop's Siſter is this Prelate's only Darling; for to the ſurprize of the whole Court, and Chapter, he prefers him before a Nephew of his own Name, a Canon of *Saltzbourg* and of *Trent*, a young Clergyman of great Hopes.

The Archbiſhop of the *Lodron* Family who caus'd the Metropolis to be built, likewiſe founded the Archiepiſcopal Palace, the Fortifications, and the Stables, which were all finiſh'd in the thirty two Years that he was Archbiſhop. The Apartments of the Palace being not laid out altogether in the modern Taſte, the deceaſed Archbiſhop *Anthony* Count *de Harrach*, made a thorough Change in them, and left little more than the Outſide ſtanding. The Palace at *Saltzbourg* is now more magnificent than many royal Houſes. It contains 173 Rooms all richly furniſh'd, without reckoning the Halls and Galleries. The Archbiſhop's Apartment is ſtately:

ſtately: It has a great Marble Stair-caſe divided into three Flights, which leads into a ſpacious Guard-Chamber, from whence one enters into the Archbiſhop's Apartment conſiſting of ſeveral Rooms, where able *Italian* Maſters have adorn'd the Cielings with very good Draughts. One is really ſurprized to ſee the Richneſs of the Furniture, and the infinite Variety of other Things that are diſtributed up and down this vaſt Apartment; ſuch as Marble Tables adorn'd with gilt Mouldings; old Porcellain of the moſt beautiful ſort; Luſtres of maſſy Silver, and Rock-Cryſtal of uncommon Workmanſhip; Chandeliers alſo of Silver or Cryſtal upon large gilded Stands, and a multitude of other Things very well worth Obſervation.

How magnificent ſoever this Apartment is, there's another made uſe of upon Days of Ceremony which infinitely ſurpaſſes it. I will only mention the principal Rooms of it. We firſt enter into a great Salon adorn'd with the Pictures of no leſs than fourſcore Archbiſhops of *Saltzbourg*. Next to it there's another Salon ingeniouſly and magnificently decorated, which diſcovers Grandeur in every part of it. 'Tis furniſh'd with a Suit of Hangings of Crimſon-Damaſk with Gold Lace, forming a rich Architecture in Pilaſters of the Compoſite Order, the Frize of which is adorn'd with a pair of Brackets, which is a vaſt Addition to the whole Decoration. The rich Gilding ſhines every where with Profuſion. At one End of the Room there ſtands in the Wall a ſumptuous Beaufet of Silver gilt, and at the other there's a rich Canopy under which the Archbiſhop ſits when he dines in State. There's a ſtately Luſtre in the middle of the Room which conſiſts of magnificent pieces of Rock Cryſtal. At the End of this grand Apartment there are two Galleries that deſerve the Attention of the Curious in Painting, who will certainly paſs their Time here very agree-

ably, and find a great many choice Pictures done by the beſt Maſters. The Chimney-piece of the firſt of theſe Galleries is a great Ornament to it, being of the fineſt Marble adorn'd with Braſs, gilt with Water-Gold. Over it there's a Statue of Braſs as big as the Life repreſenting *Antinous*. The ſecond Gallery is as magnificent as the firſt. The Floor, Cieling, Door-Caſes, and all the Ornaments in general are of fine Marble. The Walls are painted in Freſco, and exhibit Geographical Charts of the principal Dominions in *Europe* in divers Pictures, which are executed with very great Art and Exactneſs both as to the Painting and Diſpoſition of the Things that are the Subjects of it.

A third Apartment which is over the Archbiſhop's is for lodging foreign Princes, and is not inferiour to the others in Grandeur and Magnificence. It conſiſts of ſeveral Rooms all in a Row. In one Room there are all the Pictures of the Emperors from *Charlemain* to *Charles* VI. The Rooms that follow it are hung with very rich Tapeſtry, particularly one Set repreſenting the War between *Pompey* and *Cæſar*, which is ſo wonderfully well drawn that the Marſhal *de Daun* Governour of *Milan* offer'd 40000 Florins for it to the late Archbiſhop. I ſhall ſay nothing of the other Apartments, having treated ſo much of the Archiepiſcopal Palace; tho' if it had belong'd to a Temporal Prince I ſhould have ſaid much leſs of it, but I thought fit to give you an Idea of the Wealth of a Prelate.

Adjoining to the Palace there is a great Building which ſerves for lodging the Archbiſhop's Domeſtics. The Stables are fit for a King, and if a *Frenchman* was to ſee them he would be forc'd to own that as to the Inſide they are more magnificent than the ſo much boaſted Stables of *Verſailles*. They hold 150 Horſes in two Rows, with a broad Walk in the middle; and the Roof which is pretty high

is

is ſupported by two Ranges of Stone-Pillars. Next to theſe Stables is a Riding-Houſe cover'd, the Ceiling of which being painted in Freſco, repreſents a Tournament; and all round it there is a Gallery. 'Tis pity that this magnificent Riding-Houſe is not broader. There's another Riding-Houſe uncovered which has not its Fellow in the World. 'Tis a very great ſquare Place, three Sides of which are lin'd by very high Rocks, in which three Rows of Seats are very artfully cut out for the Spectators, when there is any Carouſal, or Combat of wild Beaſts. The whole Work is really magnificent, and the old *Romans* would not have been aſhamed to own it.

Trinity-College Church is extremely well adorned. The Floor is of Marble, and the Roof painted with a great deal of Art, repreſenting the Aſſumption of the Virgin, and the Crown placing on her Head by God the Father and by Jeſus Chriſt. The High-Altar is of a very ſingular Form, but very magnificent. Two Angels of Braſs, exceeding human Stature, in a Poſture of Humility and Adoration, ſupport a Heart of Braſs which ſerves for a Tabernacle. Over it is a Globe, between God the Father and the Redeemer. God the Father ſeems to reſt his right hand upon the Globe, and preſents the left to our Lord, who puts his left upon the Globe, and in the right holds a Croſs. They are ſupported by very large Rays which ſhine with very rich Gilding. This ſtately Groupe is ſurmounted with a Glory, in the midſt of which the Holy Ghoſt appears in form of a Dove, extending its Rays over God the Father, and God the Son. The whole is of Braſs gilt with Gold, of a very curious Fancy.

Near this magnificent Church is the Palace of *Mirabel*, where the late Archbiſhop the Count *de Harrach*, uſed to ſpend the Summer. This Prince who is truly magnificent in every thing, caus'd this Houſe to be built at a great Expence from the very

Foundation; but the Architect whom he employ'd has not anſwer'd his Intention, and it appears that he did not underſtand the proper Diſtribution of the Apartments. Every Part of it indeed taken diſtinctly, is beautiful, but there is not one in its proper Place. The grand Stair-Caſe is very fine, as well for its Contrivance as for its rich Ornaments, but 'tis placed in a Corner, and without a Guide 'tis no eaſy matter to find it. The Salon, which is the Maſter-piece of the Archbiſhop's Apartments, is worth the Obſervation of the Curious, with reſpect to the grand manner in which 'tis painted: Marble, Braſs, and Gilding, ſeem to have been beſtowed on it with Profuſion. As to the Pilaſters, the *Corinthian* Order is entirely obſerved; and there are Baſſo-Relievos imitating Braſs which are well deſign'd, and make a very good Appearance. 'Tis pity this fine Salon wants Proportion, it being much too lofty for its Size; and 'tis ſtill more to be lamented that it has not a Proſpect over the Gardens, the River of *Saltz*, and the adjacent Country, which are Objects that are diſcovered from the Apartments next to the Salon.

The Chapel of *Mirabel* is alſo very magnificent; and though but of a middling Size, is not inferior to the fineſt Churches. This Palace is accompanied with Gardens finely adorned with Fountains and Statues; and there are ſeveral Orange-Trees planted in the Ground, which are cover'd up in the Winter in a wooden Box.

Thus, Sir, have I given you a very particular Account of the City of *Saltzbourg*: What remains for me is to ſpeak of the Archbiſhop's Houſhold, which will give you an Idea of his Wealth and Grandeur. This Prince has

A Steward,
A Great Chamberlain,
A Grand Marſhal,
A Maſter of the Horſe,

A

A Great Huntſman,
A Captain of the Guards,
A Maſter Cook,
A Pay-Maſter,
Twenty-four Chamberlains,
Sixteen Gentlemen-Servants called *Truchſſes*,
Sixteen Pages,
Fifteen Uſhers of the Cabinet,
Eleven Uſhers of the Chamber,
Forty-two Valets de Chambre.
Twenty-eight Footmen,
Eighteen Cooks.

How many Coachmen and Grooms he has I know not, but there muſt be a great number of 'em, the Archbiſhop having 750 Horſes.

Beſides the Officers that I have now mentioned, there are alſo the Great Hereditary Officers of the Archbiſhoprick, who are four.

The eldeſt of the *Lodron* Family is Hereditary Grand-Marſhal.

The Count *de Kuenbourg* is Great-Cup-Bearer.

The Office of Maſter of the Pantry is vacant by the death of the Count *de Thanhauſen*, the laſt of his Family.

The Count *de Torring* is Great Chamberlain.

All theſe Offices are executed by the eldeſt Sons of the Families above-mentioned.

The Archbiſhop confers the Order of St. *Hubert*, which was inſtituted the 25th of *November*, 1702, by the Archbiſhop *John-Erneſt*, who has thereto annexed ſix Commanderies, or Prebends, of a conſiderable Revenue.

The Archbiſhops are obliged for moſt of their Wealth to the Princes of *Bavaria* *. Mean time the Members of the Chapter of *Saltzbourg* admit of

* The Revenue of this Archbiſhoprick amounts to 600,000 Florins. The Archbiſhop has 60,000 Florins a-year for his private Expences, and 24,000 Crowns for officiating at three ſolemn Services, without reckoning the Deanery, which is worth 24,000 Florins to him.

no Princes, that they may have a Plea for refuſing the Princes of *Bavaria*, of whoſe Power they are jealous; in which I think they ſhew more regard to the Rules of Policy than thoſe of Gratitude.

The City of *Saltzbourg* is worth ſeeing, but does not afford Amuſement. Every one lives here for his own ſake, and except ſome Gentlemen of the Chapter, and the Maſter of the Horſe, who is the Count *de Truchſſes Zeil*, there's nobody to viſit. The latter is a Nobleman whoſe Manners and Sentiments are entirely conformable to his Birth. I know nobody that is more polite; and I have abundant reaſon to praiſe his Civility to me. He is of a Family, one Branch of which is ſettled in *Pruſſia*, where it has for a long time held diſtinguiſhed Employments, and produced Subjects of great Merit who have done the State good Service.

I forgot to mention two things to you that are worth ſeeing, *viz.* the Capuchins Convent, from whence there's a Proſpect of a vaſt Tract of Country; and St. *Sebaſtian*'s Church-yard, in which is interr'd the celebrated *Paracelſus*; his Tomb lies in a Place very much neglected, behind a Door, where a *Latin* Epitaph ſays, 'There reſts *Philip-* 'pus *Theophraſtus Paracelſus*, the famous Phyſician, 'who with wonderful Art cured the Leproſy, Gout, 'Dropſy, and other incurable Diſtempers; and 'who after having given all his Eſtate to the Poor, 'died *September* 24, 1541.'

Paracelſus cured moſt of his Patients by Sympathy, which made the Vulgar, who are always apt to run into extremes, believe that he was a Magician. He wrote ſeveral Books, whereof one of the moſt curious is his *Treatiſe of Secret Philoſophy*, which really contains ſuch Paſſages as would make one believe that if *Paracelſus* was not a Conjurer himſelf, he was at leaſt one of the Sect.

St.

St. *Sebaſtian*'s Church-yard is a ſquare Place, encompaſſed with a Gallery ſupported by Arches: 'tis 119 Paces in length, and 96 in breadth.

The Neighbourhood of *Saltzbourg* is not diſagreeable; and though the Valley in which the City lies is pretty much incloſed with Mountains, yet it preſents ſeveral Objects that are pleaſing to the Sight.

The Archbiſhop has two Pleaſure-Houſes, *viz. Cleiſheim* and *Heilbron*, which are both of them beautiful and magnificent. *Heilbron* eſpecially is worth ſeeing, on account of its fine Waters and Caſcades.

I hope to write to you ſpeedily from *Venice*, and perhaps you will hear from me when I come to *Inſpruc*; but this will depend on the Stay I ſhall make there, and on the Departure of the Poſt.

LET-

POSTSCRIPT.

Since the year 1730, that this Letter was wrote, great Revolutions have happened in the Archbiſhoprick of *Saltzbourg*, with regard to Religion; for about 22,000 Perſons have abandoned this Country, together with their Eſtates and their Fortunes, and declared themſelves of the *Lutheran* Communion; which is very ſtrange, and almoſt inconceivable! For in ſhort, thoſe People never knew any Clergy but their own Prieſts, they lived in a Country where there was no Controverſy about Religion, becauſe all the Inhabitants were reckoned ſtaunch Catholics, by conſequence thoſe People could not be inſtructed; and even the greateſt part of them could not read, but were bred up in ſuch groſs Ignorance that they ſcarce knew the Principles of Chriſtianity. Therefore how could theſe poor People know that they were in an Error?

I am not ignorant that at the beginning of the pretended Reformation, there were *Saltzburgers* that followed the Doctrines of *Luther*, ſuch as *Staupitz*, Abbot of *St. Peter*'s at *Saltzbourg*; *Paul Speratus*, a Preacher in the Cathedral of this City; and ſeveral others. But *Lutheraniſm* was thought to be quite ſuppreſſed in this Province, when it ſeem'd all on a ſudden to take deeper Root than ever; tho', as I ſaid before, I can't conceive how it ſhould happen. Is it poſſible that the Archbiſhop, the Curates

and Prieſts ſhould take ſo little Care of what ought to have been moſt dear to them, I mean the Salvation of Souls, as that ſo many Thouſands of People ſhould paſs with them for good *Romans*, at the ſame time that they abhorred *Rome* and its Precepts? For in ſhort, I ſuppoſe, and believe too, that there have ever been Proteſtants in this Country, ſince the pretended Reformation; it being not in the power of Man to deſtroy a Religion when once it has had Followers in a Country; but the Difficulty is, how thoſe Sectaries ſhould ſubſiſt there, without the Knowledge of an eccleſiaſtical Sovereign; and how it was poſſible for them, not only to ſubſiſt, but even to multiply, and the Prieſts and Archbiſhop not perceive it. Ought not the Curates to know the Sentiments of their Pariſhioners by Confeſſion? Ought they not to acquaint the Archbiſhop their Head of it? and ought not this Prelate and his Prieſts to endeavour to reclaim thoſe that go aſtray, by the Example of a lively Faith, and by charitable Exhortations, and from a Compaſſion for their Error, diligently to oppoſe the Propagation of it? But all this has been neglected: The Prieſts, and their Archbiſhop, knew not there was a Fire, 'till 'twas too late to put it out; and inſtead of the Good-nature, Compaſſion, and Charity, which like Water were neceſſary to extinguiſh it, they pour'd in the Oil of Hatred and Violence, and abandoned themſelves to their furious Zeal. The haughty, rigid, and ſevere Archbiſhop, forgetting that he was both a Father and an Archbiſhop, and giving way to the Violence of his Temper, has for ever loſt thoſe Souls which he might have hoped to reclaim, by Inſtructions truly paſtoral, and treating them as Children led aſtray; whereas this Prelate, by uſing the contrary Method, has cauſed a great many Perſons to declare themſelves Proteſtants, who would have died in the Boſom of the Church, if the proper Remedies had been employed, to bring them back to it.

But I am perſuaded that among the Emigrants of *Saltzbourg*, there is a vaſt number who made Religion only a Cloak to leave their Country, in hopes of bettering their Fortunes elſewhere, and who were ſeduced by the enſnaring Temptation of throwing off the Yoak of Submiſſion. Be this as it will, thoſe unfortunate Subjects, like the *Jews*, are ſpread into divers Countries, as *Germany*, *Holland*, and *Pruſſia*, where the King, I muſt confeſs, (as much a Catholic as I am) has received them with a Charity and Generoſity perfectly chriſtian and royal; his Majeſty having grudg'd neither Care nor Expence to convince the World that as *France* is the Aſylum of unfortunate Kings, ſo the Dominions of *Pruſſia* are the Refuge of oppreſſed Subjects.

LETTER XXIV.

SIR, *Inſpruc, April* 9, 1730.

I Travelled hither all the way from *Saltzbourg* with the ſame Horſes, which is what I will never do again; for travelling by Poſt is always beſt; and though 'tis more expenſive, yet on the other hand 'tis leſs fatiguing.

Three Leagues from *Saltzbourg* ſtands the little Town of HALLE, which belongs to the Elector of *Bavaria*, and is a Place conſiderable for its Salt-Pits. It lies in a ſmall Valley croſſed by three Rivers form'd by Torrents from the Mountains, which bring down a vaſt Quantity of floating Wood, that is ſtopp'd at *Halle* by the Piles which either croſs or ſhut up the Rivers. They lay the Wood up in ſtore for the Salt-Works which conſume a great Quantity of it.

After I had been all over the Salt-Works, I went and din'd at *Schneitzenrieth*, a ſorry Village, where, however, I far'd better than I have done at many good Towns.

When I had dined I purſued my Journey, and having travelled four Leagues, entred the Country of TIROL, the Paſſage to which is very much ſtraitened, ſo that there's ſcarce room for a Waggon, by two very high Rocks or Mountains, and two Forts between them, one belonging to the Archbiſhoprick of *Saltzbourg*, and the other to the County of *Tirol*. Each Sovereign keeps a Garriſon in his Fort, and Officers to receive the Duties.

I lay that Evening at WAHTRINGEN, the firſt Village in the Dominions of *Tirol*, as one comes out of *Germany*. I here found a Parcel of Boys running about with lighted Touchwood in their hands, to the Houſes, Woods, and Fields. Having aſk'd an old Man the meaning of it, he told me that the Wood ſo lighted was conſecrated by the Parſon of the Pariſh, and had the virtue of ſecuring all Places to which it was carried, againſt Lightning. This Conſecration of the Wood is always perform'd the *Saturday* before *Eaſter*, when a great Pile is erected before the Church, into which the Parſon throws Holy-water, and then ſets fire to it. When the whole is well kindled, every one ſtrives to ſnatch a Firebrand, with which they run to their Houſes and Lands, but with ſo little care that I wonder they don't ſet every place they come to in a Flame.

From *Halle* to *Wahtringen* the Country is every bit uncultivated. The Inhabitants live upon Milk, Pickled-cabbage, and Water-gruel. They have no Corn but what comes from *Bavaria*. All their Subſtance and Trade is in Cattle, and their Mountains afford excellent Paſture.

Upon *Eaſter-day* I heard Maſs at *St. John*'s, a great Village where there's a very pretty Church. I was very much pleaſed with the Sermon that was preached by the Parſon, and with the Regularity with which the whole Divine Service was performed.

After Maſs I went and din'd at ELVAN, to which place I came through a Valley, which in the Summer time muſt be very agreeable, but at the preſent Seaſon is all covered with Snow. I was not more edified at *Wahtringen*, than I was ſcandalized at *Elvan*, to catch my Landlord, a clever, merry Blade, engaged with one of his Maids in ſomething elſe inſtead of telling their Beads. My Preſence was

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ſo far from ſpoiling Sport that my Landlord invited me very civilly to do as he did, aſſuring me that his Houſe was well furniſh'd with Nymphs. In a very little time I was convinced that what he ſaid was true, for being obliged by the Cold to ſtay in the common Room while one was aired for me, I ſaw half a ſcore Laſſes come in, who were all of 'em my Landlord's very humble Servants, and not in the leaſt diſpoſed to imitate the eleven thouſand Virgins.

After Dinner, purſuing my way through Snows and Rocks, I went and lay at *Kundabl.* Next day I got beyond the Snow, and croſſed a very pleaſant Valley which brought me to RATENBERG, a Town on the Banks of the *Inn*, defended by a Caſtle built on a Rock, and ſtronger by its Situation than by its Works. The Elector *Maximilian-Emanuel* of *Bavaria* coming before this Caſtle on the 13th of *June*, 1703, obliged the Garriſon, which was compoſed of the Militia, to ſurrender at Diſcretion. From this Fort to *Inſpruc* I always kept along the River *Inn*, which runs through a fine Valley between high Mountains that are much ſteeper on the right ſide of the River than the left; nevertheleſs there are Houſes on them that are inhabited by the Miners. I can't imagine how it was poſſible for the good People to build in Places ſo inconvenient; for their Houſes look as if they were ſtuck on to the Rocks, and as if nothing but a Goat or a Swallow could come at them. The whole Valley is very populous, and abounds with pretty Villages, Caſtles, and fine Country-Houſes.

At the end of it ſtands the Town of SCHWATZ, which is very well built. The Pariſh Church is an ancient, fair, large Edifice; and wholly covered with Copper, as moſt of the Churches in *Tirol* are with Tin painted green, which has a very pretty look. The Houſes at *Schwatz* are generally of Brick, ſo that 'tis very rare to ſee one of Timber. I obſerv'd

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at the Inn where I din'd, and throughout the whole Country of *Tirol*, that when People came into any Houſe, they ſaid to the Maſter of it, *Hail, Jeſus Chriſt!* to which he anſwered, *May Chriſt be praiſed, and the holy Virgin his Mother.* Then the Maſter of the Houſe ſtepp'd forward, and took the Viſitor by his hand. This method of ſaluting is practiſed among all the People throughout *Tirol*; and the Salutation is fix'd up in print at all the Doors, with an Advertiſement tack'd to it, importing, that Pope *Clement* XI. had granted an hundred Days of Indulgence, and plenary Abſolution, in favour of thoſe who ſhould pronounce the Salutation and the Anſwer.

After having din'd at *Schwatz*, I continued to ride along the *Inn*; and three Leagues beyond that I paſs'd the River, over a Bridge near *Fultiſhau*, a fine Convent of the Servite-Fryars, and went to HALLE, the ſecond City of *Tirol*. The reverend Fathers the *Jeſuits* have a fine Houſe here, and a noble Church, with a great Garden to it. The Mint is alſo worth ſeeing, where they coin a great Quantity of Species from the Silver and Copper taken out of the Mines of *Tirol*. The Water is brought to it by wooden Pipes. They drive a great Trade at *Halle* in Copper, Tin, and Salt, which is produced there in abundance, the Vent of it being promoted by means of the River *Inn*, which becomes navigable at *Halle*.

From this Town to *Inſpruc* 'tis two Leagues, and a ſtrait even Road which deſerves to be planted on each ſide with Trees. INSPRUC, the Capital City of *Tirol*, ſtands in the middle of a Valley, on the Banks of the *Inn*, over which there's a wooden Bridge that leads to the Suburbs. *Inſpruc* was heretofore the Reſidence of the Archdukes, the Sovereigns of *Tirol*; but ſince the auguſt Houſe of *Auſtria* has been reduced in *Germany* to the Imperial Branch,

Branch ſingly, this City has been only ſubject to Governors, who however were always great Noblemen. *Charles* Duke of *Lorrain*, who married the Queen Dowager of *Poland*, Siſter to the Emperor *Leopold*, and who made himſelf famous by the Victories which he gain'd over the *Turks*, held this important Office. That Prince dying at *Inſpruc*, was ſucceeded by *Charles* Prince Palatine of *Newbourg*, Brother to the Empreſs *Eleonora*, *Leopold*'s third Wife, but he renounced the Government of *Tirol*, on his Acceſſion to the Electorate. He liv'd at *Inſpruc*, with great Pomp, and his Abſence is ſtill very much lamented there. Since he went away, the Government of *Tirol* has remain'd vacant. They ſay 'tis deſigned for the Archduchеſs *Mary-Magdalen*, the Emperor's youngeſt Siſter. This I know is what the Burghers of *Inſpruc* wiſh for; but I don't think the Nobility do; becauſe the Preſence of the Archduchеſs would oblige the People of Quality to be at very great Expence; for they would be under a neceſſity of going to Court, as well as of carrying it more civilly to their Vaſſals.

The Count *de Konickel* is the Chief of the Regency: He has the Title of *Landſhauptman*, which is much the ſame with Lieutenant-General of the Province, wherein he has the abſolute Command, and all the Sovereign Courts depend on him. This Nobleman is a *Tiroleſe*, and lodges in a fine Houſe which has been built by order of the States of *Tirol*, for the Reſidence of their *Landſhauptman*. He conducts himſelf with Dignity, and is civil to Foreigners.

'Twas at *Inſpruc* that the Emperor *Charles* V. received one of the greateſt Shocks he had met with in all his Life. For he was ſurprized there with his Brother *Ferdinand*, King of the *Romans*, by *Maurice* Elector of *Saxony*, who, though his Creature, made War upon him nevertheleſs, on account of Religion

Religion. The Emperor and his Brother were ſo near being taken that they had but juſt time to make their Eſcape to *Villaco*, a little Town upon the *Drave* in *Carinthia*. This was a terrible Reverſe of Fortune for a Prince, who, but a few years before, had a Pope and a King of *France* too, his Priſoners.

Maximilian-Emanuel Elector of *Bavaria* was not more fortunate at *Inſpruc* than *Charles* V. for though he made himſelf Maſter of it in *June* 1703, he was obliged to abandon it in *July* following, and to retire to *Bavaria*, after having tried in vain to force Paſſes which were in a manner inacceſſible by Nature, and guarded not only by the Peaſants but by regular Troops. His Deſign was to have joined M. *de Vendoſme* in the County of *Trent*, and by that means to have opened a Communication with the *Milaneſe*. The Elector whilſt he was retreating, ran the hazard ſeveral times of loſing his Life; and his Troops were for the moſt part knock'd o' th' head by Stones which the Peaſants hurl'd at them in the Defiles which they were obliged to paſs.

The City of *Inſpruc* is abſolutely defenceleſs, and were it not for its Suburbs, would be one of the leaſt Cities in all *Germany*; but thoſe Suburbs are very large, and the Reſidence of Perſons of the greateſt Diſtinction. The Houſes are very commodious, well built of Brick, and for the moſt part with Piazzas, which is a great Conveniency to the Foot-paſſengers. There was heretofore great Store of Salt here, but for ſome years paſt the Pits are dry, which is a Loſs to *Inſpruc* of no leſs than 200,000 Florins a-year.

Though the City is ſmall yet there are ſeveral very fine things to be ſeen in it. Such is the ancient Palace of the Archdukes, a vaſt large Structure, but without Architecture, or any manner of Re-

Regularity. There are Pictures in it done by skilful Hands, particularly in that call'd the Giant's-Hall, where the Story of *Dejanira* is represented with very great Art and Perfection.

The Palace has very great Gardens belonging to it, but they are not well kept; yet there are the Remains of noble Fountains and brazen Statues. Among the latter is an Equestrian Statue of an Arch-duke of *Austria*, who is represented as large as the Life, in Armour, with Breeches after the Fashion of the Ancients, a Ruff, and little Boots. The Horse seems to rest upon his Haunches, in an Attitude as if he was just ready to leap off the Pedestal.

The Prince *Charles* of *Newbourg*, the present Elector Palatine, finding the old Castle not commodious enough, caused one to be built of Wood; which was some years ago burnt down to the ground by an accidental Fire.

The Parish Church is of modern Building, with a great Dome raised in the middle of the Cross. The whole Architecture of this Edifice is of the *Corinthian* Order. The Front is expos'd to an advantagious Point of View on a Square, and is adorned with three Orders, one above another, which makes the Fabric to rise in the whole to about 120 Foot height, exclusive of a great flight of Steps to it, after the manner of *Italy*. All the Parts of this Structure are charged with Ornaments of a clumsey Invention, and very ill executed; so that the Confusion resulting from it is infinitely shocking to those that have a nice Taste of Architecture. The Inside is more tolerable than the Outside, and is even magnificent. The whole Length from the Entrance to the Foot of the High-Altar, is 432 Feet. The Foundation of it was laid while *Charles de Newbourg* was Governor of *Tirol*, who plac'd the first Stone of it. The whole Decoration

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of this Church conſiſts in Pilaſters of red Marble, with a Vein of white, and the Chapiters are of Plaiſter. The Roof is painted in Freſco by *Goſman-Daniel Oſſem*, a Native of *Munich*, who has ſucceeded ſo well as to give entire Satisfaction to ſuch as have a Taſte for, and Skill in things that are curious. The High-Altar ſtands under the Arch at the end oppoſite to the Nave of the Church. 'Tis perfectly magnificent, adorned with four great Pillars of the Compoſite Order, of green Marble with white Veins, whoſe Chapiters and Baſes are of Marble of various Colours; and they ſupport a Canopy, which is form'd by four Curves fill'd with a Glory.

The Tabernacle and the Front of the Altar are of maſſy Silver, charged with ſeveral Mouldings, and Foliages of Silver gilt; and there are few Altars more ſpendidly decorated. There is a miraculous Image of the holy Virgin, which the Archduke *Leopold*, the Sovereign of *Tirol*, brought hither from *Dreſden*. That Prince made a Viſit to the Elector of *Saxony*, who ſhewing him his Treaſure, deſir'd him to chuſe any Piece that he lik'd beſt; *Leopold* ſingled out this Figure, becauſe he was told that in the early days of Lutheraniſm, it had been caſt three times in the Fire, and always taken out again without any Damage. The Archduke on his return to his Dominions, made a Preſent of this Image to the Pariſh, and it has ever ſince been held in great Veneration, and never fail'd of working great Miracles. Three great Lamps of maſſy Silver are continually burning before it; and the other Chapels have each a Lamp of ſolid Silver whoſe Light is always ſhining. All this Plate was given to the Church by the Elector Palatine.

The famous golden Roof is near the Pariſh-Church, and ſerves to cover a Balcony of the Chancery which fronts the Square. They ſay that *Frederic* of *Auſtria*, the Sovereign of *Tirol*, cauſed this

Roof

Roof to be made, to let his Subjects ſee that he was not ſo bare of Money as they thought him, and that he did not deſerve the Nick-name they had given him of the *Pennyleſs Prince*. There are many however who affirm that this Roof is not of Gold, while others ſay the contrary. As far as I can judge of it, I believe 'tis of Copper only covered with very thin Plates of Gold, and by conſequence of no great Value. And ſuppoſing the whole Roof was of ſolid Gold, I don't believe the Expence was very extraordinary, though to be ſure it was by much too great for ſo mean a purpoſe.

The Houſe or College of the reverend Fathers the Jeſuits, is a very great Building in which no Coſt has been ſpared. Its principal Front is 166 Paces in length. Theſe Fathers are the Directors of the Univerſity. Near to their College is the Church of the *Franciſcans*, whoſe Convent was founded by the pious Legacies of the Emperor *Maximilian*, who on his Death-bed ordered his Succeſſor to cauſe this Houſe and Church to be built at *Inſpruc*. His Grandſon *Ferdinand* I. Son to *Philip* the Fair, perform'd his Will, and in honour of his Grandfather's Memory, raiſed him a Marble Tomb which may be rank'd among the moſt ſtately *Mauſoleums* in *Europe*. The Emperor *Maximilian* is there repreſented on his Knees upon a Cuſhion, with his Hands lifted up to Heaven, and as it were proſtrate in Prayer: He is adorned with the Crown, and the Imperial *Dalmatic*. This Figure is of a gigantic Size, and admirably well done in Braſs. 'Tis plac'd on a great high Baſe of black Marble, forming an oblong Square, on an Aſcent of three Steps of red Marble. The whole Baſe is divided into twenty-four Compartiments, or ſquare Tables of white Marble, repreſenting the memorable Actions of *Maximilian* in excellent Bas-Reliefs. The

four cardinal Virtues in a mournful Attitude, are repreſented in Braſs, as ſitting on the Corners of the *Mauſoleum*, and looking on *Maximilian*'s Statue. The entire *Mauſoleum* ſtands by itſelf in the middle of the Church; and the following Inſcription is engraved in Letters of Gold all round the Baſe of this Monument;

IMPERATORI CÆSARI MAXIMILIANO, PIO, FELICI, AUGUSTO, PRINCIPI TUM PACIS TUM BELLI ARTIBUS OMNIUM ÆTATIS SUÆ REGUM LONGE CLARISSIMO; SUB CUJUS FELICI IMPERIO INCLYTA GERMANIA, DULCISSIMA IPSIUS PATRIA, TAM ARMIS QUAM LITERARUM STUDIIS PLUS QUAM UNQUAM ANTEHAC FLORERE CAPUTQUE SUPER ALIAS NATIONES EXTOLLERE CŒPIT: CUJUS INSIGNIA FACTA TABELLIS INFERIORIBUS, QUAMVIS SUB COMPENDIO, EXPRESSA CONSPICIUNTUR. IMPERATOR CÆSAR FERDINANDUS, PIUS, FELIX, AUGUSTUS, AVO PATERNO PERQUAM COLENDO, AC BENE MERITO, PIETATIS ATQUE GRATITUDINIS ERGO POSUIT. NATUS EST DIE XXVII MARTII ANNO DOMINI M.CCCC.LIX. WELSÆ IN AUSTRIA DENATUS.

All this fine *Mauſoleum* was executed with very great Care and Skill, by *Alexander Colin*, a Native of *Mechlin*; the Picture of which ingenious Painter, and that of his Wife, are kept in the Church, as an Acknowledgment due to that excellent Artiſt. This *Mauſoleum* was mightily enriched by the Magnificence of *Frederic* Archduke of *Auſtria*, ſurnamed the *Pennyleſs Prince*, who cauſed to be placed in the

the Nave of the Church twenty eight Statues of Braſs ſeven Foot in height, repreſenting ſo many Princes and Princeſſes that were related to the Houſe of *Auſtria*. They are ſet up in two Rows from the great Gate to the Altar, and therefore ſeparate the Nave from the two Wings on the Sides. 'Tis pity that thoſe Statues are in the Hands of Monks who neglect them very much, and ſuffer the Duſt to eat into them. They would do much better in a Royal Palace: Some of them are in great Perfection. I fancy you will be glad to know the Names of the Perſons they repreſent.

I. The firſt, beginning on the right Side of the Altar, is the Figure of *Joan* of *Caſtile*, Mother to *Charles* V. and *Ferdinand* I. the Heads of the two Branches of the Houſe of *Auſtria*; the firſt of which became extinct by the Death of *Charles* II. King of *Spain*, but the ſecond ſtill flouriſhes among us with Glory in the Perſon of the Auguſt *Charles* VI.

II. *Ferdinand* the Catholic, Father to *Joan*.

III. *Cunigonda* Archduchеſs, Daughter to the Emperor *Frederic* IV. and Wife to *Albert* of *Bavaria*, who died a Nun.

IV. *Margaret*, Daughter to *Henry* Duke of *Carinthia* and Count of *Tirol*, ſurnamed the *Pious*, becauſe ſhe founded and built ſeveral Convents. This Princeſs was nick-named *Margaret Wide-Mouth*: She was marry'd firſt to *John* Margrave of *Moravia*, Son to the Emperor *Charles* IV. whom ſhe ſurviv'd, and marry'd to her ſecond Huſband *Lewis*, Margrave of *Brandenburg*, Son to the Emperor *Lewis* of *Bavaria*, whom ſhe alſo ſurviv'd, and finding herſelf a Widow a ſecond time, and without Iſſue to enjoy what ſhe had, ſhe made a Preſent of the County of *Tirol* whereof ſhe was Sovereign, to her Couſins *Rodolph*, *Albert*, and *Leopold* of

Auſtria, which Grant was confirm'd by the Emperor *Charles* IV. in 1364.

V. *Mary* of *Burgundy*, Wife to the Emperor *Maximilian* I. the richeſt Heireſs of her Time.

VI. *Elizabeth*, the Daughter of the Emperor *Sigiſmond*, and Wife to the Emperor *Albert* II. who carry'd the Duchy of *Luxemburg* to the Houſe of *Auſtria*. She was Mother to the unfortunate King *Ladiſlaus*.

VII. *Godfrey* of *Bouillon*, Duke of *Lorrain*, King of *Jeruſalem*, plac'd here among the Princes of the Houſe of *Auſtria*, as being deſcended from the ſame Family as they.

VIII. *Albert* I. Emperor.

IX. *Frederic*, Archduke of *Auſtria*, he who was nick-named Prince *Pennyleſs*.

X. *Leopold* of *Auſtria*, ſurnamed the *Virtuous*, Son of *Albert* the *Wiſe*.

XI, and XII. Opinions are very much divided about the Perſons who are repreſented by theſe two Statues; but 'tis generally thought they are the Emperors *Charles* V. and *Ferdinand* I.

XIII. The Emperor *Frederic* IV. Father to *Maximilian* I.

XIV. *Albert* II. Emperor, King of *Hungary* and *Bohemia*, and Father to the unfortunate King *Ladiſlaus*.

XV. *Clovis*, the firſt Chriſtian King of *France*, who is plac'd among the Princes of the Houſe of *Auſtria*, becauſe their Genealogiſts derive them from the ancient *Franks* who ſubdued *France*.

XVI. *Philip* I. call'd the Fair, King of *Spain*.

XVII. The Emperor *Rodolph* I.

XVIII. The Archduke *Albert*, call'd the *Wiſe*.

XIX. *Theodoric* King of the *Goths*. I am not a Genealogiſt good enough to tell you in what Relation he ſtands to the Houſe of *Auſtria*.

XX.

XX. *Erneſt*, Archduke, Grandfather to *Maximilian* I.

XXI. *Theodebert* Count of *Provence*, from whom deſcended the Dukes of *Burgundy* and the Counts of *Hapſburg*.

XXII. *Arthur*, Prince of *Wales*, who marry'd *Catherine* of *Arragon*.

XXIII. *Sigiſmond*, Archduke and Count of *Tirol*, who adopted the Emperor *Maximilian* I.

XXIV. *Blanche Mary*, the ſecond Wife of *Maximilian* I. which Princeſs was the Daughter of *John Galeas* Duke of *Milan*.

XXV. *Margaret*, Daughter of *Maximilian* I. who was marry'd firſt to *John* a Prince of *Spain*, and ſecondly to *Philibert* Duke of *Savoy*.

XXVI. *Cimburge*, Wife of *Erneſt* the Archduke, and Mother to the Emperor *Frederic* IV.

XXVII. *Charles* the *Bold*, Duke of *Burgundy*, Father to *Mary* of *Burgundy* who was Wife to *Maximilian* I.

XXVIII. *Philip*, Duke of *Burgundy*, Father to *Charles* the *Bold*.

Beſides theſe twenty eight Statues there are twenty three others plac'd upon the Corniſh of the Portico which ſeparates the Nave from the Choir: They are of Braſs two Foot high, and repreſent thoſe Kings and Princes whom the Church honours as Saints.

I am farther to acquaint you of the Chapel of this Church, call'd the Silver Chapel, becauſe of the Image of the Virgin there of ſolid Silver as big as the Life in the middle of the Altar, with a great many Images of Saints all of the ſame Metal. The Aſcent to this Chapel is by a winding Staircaſe. Here is to be ſeen the ſtately Tomb of *Ferdinand* Archduke of *Auſtria*, Count of *Tirol*, Son to the Emperor *Ferdinand* I. This Mauſoleum is under an Arch which is pretty high. *Ferdinand*,

whoſe Figure is of white Marble, ſeems to be aſleep upon a Bed of black Marble rais'd one Foot from the Ground. The whole Arch is lin'd with Marble of various Colours, forming divers Compartments of very curious Workmanſhip, where you ſee the Arms of the Provinces reduc'd to the Obedience of the Houſe of *Auſtria*: The different Colours are ſhewn by precious Stones enchas'd in Marble, and ſo curiouſly done that the Work ſeems to be enamel'd. Round the ſame Arch are plac'd five Bas-Reliefs, repreſenting in as many Pictures the memorable Actions of *Ferdinand.* Five other Bas-Reliefs contain the Images of that Prince's Patrons, *viz.* JESUS CHRIST, St. *Anthony* of *Padua*, St. *George*, St. *Thomas*, and St. *Leopold.*

Near the ſaid Tomb ſtands that of *Philippina* of *Welſerin*, who was born at *Augſburg*, and the Wife of the Archduke *Ferdinand*, by whom ſhe had two Sons, *Charles* the Margrave of *Burgau*, and *Andrew* Cardinal of *Auſtria.* This *Mauſoleum* is of Free-ſtone and has nothing remarkable more than the following Epitaph:

> FERDINANDUS D. G. ARCHIDUX, DUX BURGUNDIÆ, COMES TIROL, PHILIPPINÆ CONJUGI CHARISSIMÆ FIERI CURAVIT. OBIIT 24 Aprilis, 1580.

The Franciſcan who ſhew'd me this Chapel aſſur'd me that it was one of the Firſt-rate Chapels in the World, on account of the Indulgences which had been annex'd to it by the Beneficence of the Popes; that it was upon a par with the Chapel of the *Holy Sepulchre* at *Jeruſalem*, with the Churches of *St. John de Lateran*, *St. Mary major*, and *St. Gregory* at *Rome*; and that, in fine, a Maſs ſaid in this Chapel for the Repoſe of a Soul departed, was enough to deliver it out of Purgatory.

Theſe,

Theſe, Sir, are the Remarks that I made in this City, from whence I am making ready to ſet out to-morrow. I expect to be well jolted all the way to *Venice*, where to make my ſelf amends I will take my Pleaſure in a *Gondola*. I wiſh with all my Heart I had your Company there; we ſhould then have the Satisfaction of ſeeing a great many fine Sights together. But for want of this Satisfaction I ſhall never ceaſe to think of you; and pray don't forget me, but believe me to be for ever, *&c.*

LETTER XXV.

SIR, *Venice, April* 27. 1730.

I Wrote to you from *Inſpruc* the very Day before I ſet out from thence for this Place, to which I arrived without any Misfortune. About three quarters of a League from *Inſpruc* we came among very tireſome and diſagreeable Mountains, the higheſt of which is call'd the *Brenner*, a Name that the Country People gave it when they clear'd it of the Wood, and burnt it. This Mountain is much more rugged on the ſide of *Trent* than 'tis towards *Inſpruc*; 'tis for nine Months together cover'd with Snow, and I found a great deal remaining on it ſtill; yet 'tis inhabited to the very Top. There is a Poſt-Houſe, a Tavern, and a Chapel in which Maſs is only ſaid when the Snows

are melted: It produces Corn and Hay in abundance. Near the Poſt-Houſe there is a conſiderable Spring which at firſt forms a large Baſin, and then divides into two Torrents which quickly change into Rivers, one whereof falls into the *Inn* above *Inſpruc*, and the other, after becoming navigable two Leagues from *Bolſano*, loſes itſelf in the *Adige* above *Trent*. The Paſſage of the *Brenner* is very painful, and ſometimes impracticable when it ſnows or rains; ſo that Travellers are often oblig'd to ſtay ſeveral Days till the Return of fair Weather; which is the more inconvenient becauſe the Inns on both Sides are of the worſt ſort.

Stertzingen a little Town four Poſt-Stages from *Inſpruc*, has nothing remarkable; however I was well accommodated there. Next Day I went and din'd at BRIXEN an Epiſcopal City in an agreeable Valley, where I found the Seaſon very forward. The Country between *Brixen* and *Bolſano* is extremely populous, and ſo manur'd that the ſteepeſt Mountains are cultivated.

BOLSANO is a pretty Town well inhabited, and drives a conſiderable Trade, having no leſs than four Fairs a Year. Its Situation is very agreeable, in the middle of a fine large Valley full of Villages and Vineyards. The Air here is much ſofter than in the reſt of *Tirol*, and I found Trees here in full Verdure while in the Country they were but juſt budded. The Vines are very carefully watched by Men who keep Guard in Huts rais'd upon three Poles plac'd croſs-wiſe, and high enough to command the Vineyards. *Miſſon* in his Voyage to *Italy* ſays, that theſe Huts or *Guerites* were for lodging the Guards that are poſted to hinder the Bears from eating the Grapes. I know not who could tell him that there were any Bears in this Country, and if there are 'tis hardly probable they would venture into a Valley ſo populous as that of *Bolſano*. The

Wines

Wines of this Valley are the beſt in all *Tirol*; but they muſt be drank, as muſt all the Wines of this Country, the very Year of their Growth, or elſe they grow luſcious, and then turn crabbed.

The Valley of *Bolſano* which extends to *Trent* is throughout equally agreeable; and is not incumber'd by thoſe horrid Mountains that we were peſter'd with in the Road from *Inſpruc*.

TRENT is celebrated for the Council formerly held there. I went to ſee the Church of St. *Mary major*, where the Fathers of that Council held their Aſſembly. It has nothing remarkable beſides its Organs which are of too enormous a Size for a Church, but are a very curious piece of Work; for they not only exhibit various Sounds but imitate Vocal Muſic, the Notes of divers Birds, and the Noiſe of Kettle-Drums and Trumpets. The Biſhop of *Trent* is a Prince of the Empire. The See is now vacant by the Death of the Count *de Wolckenſtein* the laſt Biſhop. The Chapter has fix'd the Election for next *May*. A great many Travellers highly extol the Biſhop's Palace, but for my own part, I was not ſo fortunate as to obſerve any thing in it that was worthy of Attention.

Throughout all *Tirol* the Common People are very ill-favour'd: Moſt of the Women are diſguis'd by Wens in their Throat*, and as if that was not enough they disfigure themſelves by their Dreſs. The Country Women wear Stockings which have no Feet, and are gather'd into many little Folds from the Ancle to the Calf of the Leg: Their Shoes are exactly like thoſe the Men wear. Their Petticoats are exceeding ſhort, and ty'd up almoſt as high as their Breaſts which are very large. With all this they have a Pair of Stays which reaches down to their

* The People about the *Alps* are very ſubject to thoſe Swellings by drinking too much cold unwholeſome Water.

their Waiſt, and renders them compleatly deform'd. Inſtead of other Head-dreſs they wear a green high-crown'd Hat, the Brims of which are let down, and is as unbecoming a part of their Dreſs as any of the reſt. At *Brixen* the Blood mends, the Women are handſomer, the Men more genteel, and the People in general more civiliz'd; tho' take 'em all together the *Tiroleſe* are very honeſt People. They are ſtaunch zealous Catholics, tho' they ſay that ſome of the Peaſants are *Lutherans*. The *Holy Virgin* and St. *Chriſtopher* are the principal Objects of the People's Devotion: The latter is painted on all their Houſes, and the Roads are full of little Chapels of the *Virgin* who is repreſented in all manner of ways. I have ſeen her painted in a Chapel ſtanding with a great Veil over her Head which ſhe extended with her Arms to cover the Pope, the Emperor, ſeven Kings, and as many Electors, who ſeem to be proſtrate at her Knees.

As I left *Trent* I began to aſcend a Mountain which does not become ſmooth till we reach to *Berſchen* which is a Poſt-Stage and a half from *Trent*. This Mountain is exceeding ſteep, troubleſome, and tireſome, and after 'tis paſs'd, one is in a manner buried among Rocks and horrid Mountains which ſeem as if they would fall on the Heads of the Travellers; and I have been aſſur'd that this ſometimes happens in rainy Weather, when ſo many Pieces crumble off of the Rock that it requires 4 or 500 Carts to clear the Roads. In ſhort, all the Way till one comes within a League of *Boſſagno* a City in the State of *Venice* is full of Rocks and Precipices; but from that Town to *Meſtre* which is four Poſt-Stages from it, the Country is the fineſt in the World; and in ſhort, every thing is good and pleaſant except their Wine and their public Houſes. The Wine has naturally a muſty Taſte, and no Body, and the Colour is like that of the thick Wine of *Bourdeaux*.

This

This Country ſo abounds in Quails that the Poſt-Maſter of *Boſſagno* aſſur'd me he had taken 720 in a Morning, that he drove a great Trade with 'em, and ſent ſome of 'em to the State of *Venice*, and to *Lombardy*. Whether he ſaid true, I know not, but he ſhew'd me 1100 live Quails which he kept in Wicker-Cages in a great Barn where he had hung all the Cages to Packthread to keep them from Rats and Cats.

At MESTRE one embarks for *Venice* which is about ſeven Leagues from it; I made the Voyage in a Gondola in leſs than an Hour and half. As I travell'd poſt to *Meſtre*, my Gondoliers, when I came to *Venice*, carry'd me to the Poſt-Office, where I was oblig'd to tell my Name, and the Buſineſs for which I came to *Venice*; but this is a Ceremony to which they who don't travel poſt are not ſubject. I went and took up my Lodging at the *White Lion*, highly rejoic'd that I could reſt my ſelf there after my Fatigue, and that I had loſt ſight of the *Alps*, thoſe horrid Mountains which no body would chuſe to live amongſt but a *Swiſs* or a *Tiroleſe*, who, as Cardinal *Bentivoglio* juſtly obſerves in his Voyage to *Swiſſerland*, are a People made for the *Alps*, and the *Alps* for them.

As I have been twice before at *Venice*, I ſerve as a **Cicerone* to two *Bohemian* Counts whom I was acquainted with at *Prague*, and whom I happen'd to meet with at my Quarters. As 'tis cuſtomary to do to all Foreigners, I began with ſhewing them the Square of St. *Mark*, the chief Square of *Venice*, if not of the whole World. 'Tis adorn'd by the Palace of the *Doge*, the Church of St. *Mark*, and the *Procuraſies*, or Houſes of the Procurators, and has been pav'd within theſe few Years with great

* This is the Name which they give in *Italy* to thoſe who do the Office of Guides to ſhew Foreigners the Curioſities of any Town.

great Squares of Free-ſtone. We aſcended the famous Tower of St. *Mark* which is a four-ſquare Building, by a Stair without Steps. It was built by the Doge *Domingo Moroſini*, to ſerve as a Watch-Tower to Ships at Sea; and that it might be ſeen a great way off he caus'd the Angel on the top of it to be gilt; but Time the Deſtroyer of all Things has ſtripp'd off the Gold. From this Tower one ſees the whole City of *Venice*, the neighbouring Iſlands, and the *Terra Firma*, which all together makes a noble Proſpect.

We afterwards enter'd St. *Mark*'s Church, which is an Edifice of *Grecian* Architecture, pretty dark and not very high, but after all, full of Curioſities worthy the Attention of a Traveller. As this Church has been deſcrib'd with more Exactneſs than I can pretend to, I ſhall treat very ſuccinctly of the chief Things which it contains. The grand Portico is ſo low that one muſt even go down ſome Steps to enter into the Church. There is a Platform over it on which are plac'd four brazen Horſes brought from *Conſtantinople*, to which they were firſt carry'd from *Rome* by *Conſtantine* when that Prince transferr'd the Seat of the Empire from the one City to the other. Nothing is ſo magnificent and beautiful as thoſe Horſes. They were heretofore all over gilt, but People out of mere Avarice ſcrap'd off great part of the precious Metal, and all the reſt is almoſt worn off by Time.

At the Entrance of the Church on the right-hand Side there is a ſquare Stone which ſeem'd to me to be of white Marble, and is ſaid to be a piece of the Rock which *Moſes* ſtruck in the Wilderneſs, whereupon there iſſued out Water. If this be really that Stone, what that Legiſlator did is ſo much the more to be admir'd, and may be reckon'd doubly miraculous; firſt in fetching Water to a Place where there was none before, and then the bring-

bringing a quantity of it through four Holes no bigger than Peaſe ſufficient to quench the Thirſt of ſo numerous a Multitude. The Pavement of this Church is very grand, being of *Moſaic* Work exceedingly diverſify'd with Stones of various Colours, Marble and Porphyry: But the ſtateſieſt Thing in all the Church are the Ornaments of the Altar for the great Holidays, of which that of St. *Mark* the Patron of the Republic is the moſt ſtrictly kept. St. *Mark*'s Treaſure is then all laid open, which conſiſts in the rich Spoils taken from the Emperors of *Conſtantinople*. Every part ſhines with ſolid Gold, Pearls, and Diamonds; ſo that the Temple of *Jeruſalem* excepted, I believe there's not a Houſe devoted to God that could ever boaſt of ſo much Riches. All this Treaſure is kept in St. *Mark*'s Tower, and none of it can be taken out but in preſence of one of the Procurators, who muſt alſo be at the Altar when the Treaſure is plac'd on it, and dare not ſtir from it till 'tis put up ſafe again.

St. *Mark*'s Church ſerves as a public Chapel to the Doge, who always is or at leaſt ought to be attended thither by the Pope's Nuncio and the Ambaſſadors; but M. *de Gerſi* the *French* Ambaſſador, from I know not what Punctilio of Honour, avoids being preſent at the ſame Functions with the Count *de Bolagnos* the Emperor's Ambaſſador *, whom he can't endure to ſee go before him. When the Doge goes to St. *Mark*'s Church 'tis always with great Ceremony: He walks between the Pope's Nuncio and the Emperor's Ambaſſador, and the other Ambaſſadors walk in the ſame Row according to the Rank of their Maſters. They are preceded by ſix Trumpets, and ſix Banners are born before the Doge together with a Chair or Stool of State, there

* This Miniſter died at *Venice* in 1732, and was ſucceeded by Prince *Pio*.

there being no Back to it, and a Cuſhion of Gold Brocade. The Prince is dreſs'd in a long Robe of Gold Brocade alſo lin'd and fac'd with Ermin. The Senators follow him in Robes of red Damaſk, walking two and two. He is receiv'd at the Entrance of the Church by the Clergy of St. *Mark* who bring him Holy Water and Incenſe, which the Ambaſſadors receive after him. His Serenity and the Ambaſſadors fall on their Knees in the middle of the Nave, and then repeat the Prayers of *Domine ſalvum fac Principem noſtrum*. Afterwards the Doge goes and places himſelf at the End of the Choir on the right Hand as we go in, and ſits in the firſt upper Row of the Canons with the Pope's Nuncio on his Right and the Emperor's Ambaſſador on the Right of the Nuncio, and ſo on with the reſt. The Doge does not ſit down 'till the Senators are all enter'd, who, as they paſs by his Serenity, make him a profound Obeiſance, to which the Doge makes no manner of return. When every body is ſeated, the Doge accompany'd by the Ambaſſadors advances towards the Altar, the Nuncio ſtrikes up High Maſs and ſays the Overture, to which the Doge anſwers. After this, the Doge and the Ambaſſadors return to their Places, and the Prelate of St. *Mark* who is in waiting, continues the Office.

After the Maſs is over, the Doge returns to his Palace attended by the ſame Train that accompanied him to Church. When he has aſcended the grand Stair-caſe of his Palace he ſeats himſelf in an Arm-Chair which is plac'd over-againſt the Stair-caſe. After he has ſate a few Moments, he diſmiſſes the Ambaſſadors and the other Perſons of his Retinue, and retires to his Apartment.

Next to St. *Mark*'s Church is the Doge's Palace, a vaſt Building, of which you will find a large Account in *Miſſon*'s Travels.

The

The preſent Doge is *Aloiſio Mocenigo* *, a Prince as much to be reſpected for his Merit as for his Dignity. He is a Gentleman of great Sagacity, talks well, is very polite, and has infinitely more Generoſity than is aſcribed to thoſe of his Country. He is a handſome Man, and has a noble Aſpect that is improv'd by his white Locks of Hair which render him venerable. Before he was advanc'd to be a Doge, which was in 1722, he ſerv'd the Republic with Diſtinction in quality of Generaliſſimo. The vain Honours which this new Dignity has procur'd him have not puff'd him up, and he ſeems to think them rather a Burden than a Pleaſure. Before he came to be Doge he was the moſt ſociable Nobleman at *Venice*, and he now ſees more Company than ever his Predeceſſors did. He maſks himſelf at publick Rejoicings, goes out every Night in a common Gondola without Guard or Retinue, and diverts himſelf at his Brother's. He has ſometimes too been upon *Terra Firma*, not valuing it tho' he loſt for a while all the Honours annexed to his Dignity as Doge; for you know that this Character does not go beyond the Lakes. He is oblig'd to be preſent at all the public Ceremonies, tho' very much againſt his Inclination and Temper, which is far more uniform than that of the other *Italians*.

The Ceremony in which he ſhines with the greateſt Luſtre, is that of marrying the Sea, which without diſpute is one of the fineſt Shews in all the World. 'Tis perform'd on *Aſcenſion-Day*, when the Doge, the Ambaſſadors, and the Senate ride out into the *Adriatic* on board a Veſſel call'd the *Bucentaur*, attended by the State-Gondolas of the Ambaſſadors gilded, with a vaſt number of other Gondolas and Galleaſſes which ſurround the *Bucentaur*, the moſt ſtately Veſſel that was ever built, and more magnificent than all that Hiſtory (or even

* He is dead, and ſucceeded by Don *Carlo Ruzzini*.

even Romance) tells us of the ſumptuous Veſſel of *Cleopatra*. When the Doge goes on board the *Bucentaur* he is ſaluted by the great Guns from the Galleys, the Men of War, and the Merchant-Ships in the Harbour; and while he performs the Ceremony of marrying the Sea by throwing in a Ring to denote the Sovereignty of the Republic over the Gulph, there's nothing heard but Kettle-Drums, Trumpets, and Concerts of Muſic, with the loud Acclamations of the People.

His Serene Highneſs marries two other Wives whom he maintains with as little Trouble as the Sea. They are the Abbeſſes of the Convents of the *Virgin* and St. *Daniel*. This Ceremony is perform'd upon St. *Philip*'s Day, when the Doge in a Galeaſs accompany'd by the Ambaſſadors and the Senate, repairs with a great Train to thoſe Convents which are ſituate on the Shoar behind the Arſenal. The Prelate who officiates for the Day receives him at the Entrance of the Church, brings him the Holy Water, and conducts him to a Place prepared for him in the Choir where he aſſiſts at High Maſs. Then he repairs to the Grate, in which there's a large Opening where the Lady Abbeſs appears with her Nuns. The Abbeſs addreſſing herſelf to the Doge intreats him to continue the Favour of his Protection to herſelf and the Nuns; to which the Doge returns anſwer, that ſhe and all the Convent may depend upon his Good-Will. Then he turns about and walks on foot to the Convent of St. *Daniel*, where his Reception and Tranſaction are the ſame as at the Convent of the *Virgin*. Theſe two Convents have very ſingular Privileges. The Abbeſſes have the Croſier-Staff, and both they and their Nuns depend ſolely upon the Doge, and not at all upon the Pope or the Court of *Rome* either in Spirituals or Temporals. They have good Revenues and live as much as can be at their Eaſe. The

Dreſs

Dreſs of theſe Nuns is rather gay than modeſt. Like the Nuns at *Straſbourg* they wear their Hair in Treſſes: Their Petticoats are ſo ſhort that you may ſee their Ancles; and inſtead of Stays they wear Jackets with ſhort Skirts, which are very becoming to thoſe that are of a good Shape. Their Necks are quite bare, only when they go into the Choir they cover them with Veils of fine white Wool, which trail on the Ground. Theſe Nuns are the Daughters of the Nobles, and enjoy great Liberty, more than I believe they have under their Father's Roof.

The Feſtival of St. *Mark* is always celebrated with very great Solemnity. On the Day preceding, the Doge accompany'd by the Ambaſſadors repairs with a great Train to St. *Mark*'s Church, where he aſſiſts at the Veſpers. Next Day the Confraternities, who are nine in number, meet at the Ducal Palace, accompany the Doge to Church in Proceſſion, and are preſent at High Maſs. After this the Doge returns to his Palace, and the Brotherhoods go round the Square. Each Society has magnificent Images, and two Canopies richly embroider'd with Gold and Silver; whoſe Polls or Supporters are of ſolid Silver. The Proceſſion is clos'd by a Man dreſs'd in a Gown of red Damaſk, carrying a Poll with a moving Wheel at the end of it; which ſerves to ſupport a gilt Lion ſurrounded with Laurel Branches, and little Standards of divers Colours. The Lion turns round inceſſantly, and the Man who carries it makes him leap, and play a hundred Gambols: He is ſurrounded with a Multitude of People, who cry out, God bleſs St. *Mark*. This Sight, how ridiculous ſoever, is nevertheleſs amuſing, draws abundance of the Nobility to the Square, and on that Day every body is maſk'd. After the Proceſſion is over the Maſkers go to ſee the Doge's Table, who entertains

the Ambaſſadors and the Senate at Dinner, on a Table in form of a Horſe-ſhoe; which is extravagantly adorn'd with Kickſhaws, and Machines made of Starch, which are here call'd *Triumphs*. Nothing of the kind can be better executed, or more magnificent. As there is a great Apprehenſion of a Crowd, all the Maſkers are turn'd away at Dinner-time. They keep on their Maſks all day long; and after Dinner all the Nobility, or to ſpeak more properly, the whole City of *Venice* appears maſk'd upon the Square of St. *Mark*; and indeed, for one who never ſaw it before, 'tis a remarkable fine Shew. What ſurpriz'd me, and if I may ſay it, made me laugh, was to ſee all the Maſkers fall on their Knees at the Sound of the *Angelus*; you wou'd ſweat every body was in Rapture, yet every thing that goes before and that follows the Stroke of the Bell is not the moſt devout.

The Day after St. *Mark*'s we had another publick Shew, and by conſequence a freſh occaſion for the *Venetians* to maſquerade it. That was the Election which the Fiſhermen, who are here called the *Nicolotti*, made of a Chief, who bears the Title of the Doge of the *Nicolotti*. Their Choice fell this Bout upon a Gondolier belonging to the noble *Giuſtiniani*. After the Election he was conducted to an Audience of the Doge of *Venice*, dreſs'd in a Robe of red Sattin, and otherwiſe accoutred like a Jackpudding. He was preceded by a great Mob of Pipers, Hautboys, and Fiſhermen. Juſt before him was carry'd a red Flag, with the Effigies of St. *Mark*. The Doge receiv'd him ſitting on his Throne, and attended by the Council. The Complement of the Doge of the Fiſhermen was made with great Gravity, and anſwer'd by the Doge of the Republick in few Words; which done, he return'd in the ſame Order that he came.

came. This ſham Doge has authority over all the Fiſhermen, is their Judge, gives them Licence to fiſh, and takes care that the City be well ſupplied with that ſort of Proviſion. 'Tis ſaid that this Office, which is for Life, is worth above 1000 Crowns *per Annum*. He had formerly the Privilege of commanding in a certain Quarter of the City, and aſſiſted at all the Ceremonies where the Doge was preſent: He even accompany'd that Prince on board the *Bucentaur*, and had Precedency of all the Ambaſſadors; but they have loſt that Right ſince, upon what occaſion I know not, they gave up the Precedency to an Ambaſſador from the Emperor.

The Patriarch of *Venice* is the ſecond Perſon in the State. The preſent Patriarch is of the Family of *Gradenigo*. The Authority of this Prelate is ſo ſtinted, that he only nominates to two or three Benefices. The Inhabitants of every Pariſh chuſe their Parſons, which is always attended with Intriguing; for their Livings being very lucrative, have great Intereſt made for them. The Patriot has a Privilege of having a Gondola painted Purple and Gold, with a Roof or Covering of Red Velvet; but this Gondola muſt not exceed a certain degree of Magnificence. You know that the Gondolas of private Men muſt be black, and that none but Ambaſſadors have the Privilege of having theirs gilded.

Tho' the Churches of *Venice* have been ſufficiently deſcrib'd, I cannot help ſaying ſomething of thoſe that I thought the moſt remarkable. Without doubt the Front of the Church of the bare-footed *Carmelites*, ſituate upon the Great Canal, is the moſt magnificent, not only of *Venice*, but perhaps of *Europe*; as well with regard to the Proportions of Architecture that have been carefully obſerv'd, as with regard to the Fineneſs of the Marble, white as

Alabaſter, with which this beautiful Front is wholly embelliſh'd. The Inſide of this Church is extremely magnificent. The Roof is richly gilded, and curiouſly painted. The Walls are fac'd with Marble Pilaſters; the Floor is of Stones inlaid with various Colours, and the Altars are exceeding ſtately: But of all theſe different things there ſeems to be too great a number, ſo that I cou'd wiſh many of the Ornaments had been ſpar'd; for a noble Simplicity wou'd have look'd much better.

This ſort of Simplicity is conſpicuous in the Church of St. *George*, one of the biggeſt in *Venice*, the Architecture of which is ſurprizing. A Convent belongs to it which for Magnificence and Regularity ſurpaſſes many Sovereign Palaces. The great Stair-Caſe is a fine piece of Architecture, and wou'd become a King's Palace much better than a Convent. This Houſe has two noble Cloyſters planted with Orange-Trees, a couple of ſpacious Courts, and two large Gardens well cultivated, which have Terraſſes from whence there is a Proſpect of the Sea, and the neighbouring Iſlands.

The Capuchins, whoſe Churches are very plain every where elſe, have a very noble one here, which is called *Al Redemptore*. It was built by order of the Republic to diſcharge a Vow they had made in the time of a Plague. The honeſt Capuchin who ſhew'd me the Church, made me take ſpecial notice of a Crucifix of Braſs over the high Altar, whereon our Saviour is repreſented expiring, with his Head leaning on his right Shoulder. My Guide aſſur'd me that when the Crucifix was plac'd in the Church the Head of our Lord's Image was erect, but that it fell afterwards into its preſent Poſture.

There are other Churches worth ſeeing, were it only for the Stately Tombs of the moſt diſtinguiſh'd Families of the Republic. Such is the Tomb of the noble Family of *Cornaro*, in the Church of the

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Cajetans, where are the Marble Effigies of eight Cardinals, and four Doges deſcended from that Family. In the Churches of St. *Paul* and St. *John* are Pictures very much eſteem'd by the *Connoiſſeurs*; and there's the ſumptuous Tomb of the *Valerios*, where the Father, the Mother, with the Son, are carv'd in their natural Proportion in Marble, apparell'd in the Habit of the Doge and Dogeſs.

Before I have done with the Churches, I think I ought to give you ſome account of that of the *Jeſuits*; the Front whereof is of noble Architecture, well diſpoſed, and the Ornaments not too much crouded; but the Decoration of the Inſide is really grand. Nothing can be richer than the Choir, and the high Altar. The Choir conſiſts of a ſpacious Dome ſupported by four large Pillars of white Marble, lined with great Flower-pieces of old green Marble. The Roof is painted and gilt. The high Altar, which is all of Marble, is a Pavilion or Dome ſupported by ten Columns wreath'd of the ancient *Greek* Marble. The Tabernacle is of Alabaſter, incruſtated with *Lapis-Lazuli*. To all this rich Work are added two Angels in their natural Proportion, over which are the Effigies of God the Father, and God the Son. The five Steps leading to the Altar are of green Marble, incruſtated with old yellow Marble ſo artfully that this Work would eaſily be taken for a Piece of *Perſian* Tapeſtry. The Pulpit and the Baluſtrade, which ſeparates the Nave from the Choir, are of Marble, and perfectly anſwerable to the Magnificence of the whole Church.

I now proceed to the Arſenal, ſo much celebrated in *Europe*, perhaps more for what it has been than what it is at preſent. Three Nobles have the Management or Cuſtody of it, who relieve one another every Week. He that is in waiting muſt viſit the Poſts in the Night-time; and the Centinels

tinels are oblig'd each to ring a Bell every Hour, that the Officer upon Guard may know they are at their Poſts. No body can ſee the Arſenal without Leave of the Nobleman in waiting, who never refuſes it to Perſons of Rank. The firſt thing I was ſhew'd were four Rooms full of Arms neceſſary for the Marines, where are alſo kept the Cuiraſſes of thoſe Generals who have moſt diſtinguiſh'd themſelves in the Service of the Republic; but they are all full of Duſt. Then I was ſhewed the Magazine of Anchors, and the Cellar to which the Workmen of the Arſenal go when they pleaſe to a Fountain of Wine and Water mix'd. As much diluted as this Wine is, 'tis ſaid that there's no leſs ſpent here every Year than amounts to 74000 Crowns. This is an Endowment which was ſettled by one *Cornaro* Queen of *Cyprus*, for the Relief of the Workmen. Near this Cellar are the Forges, of which there are twelve; but there are only two actually at work. The Rope-Yard juſt by it, is 410 Paces in length, and ſerves at the ſame time for a Warehouſe of Hemp, of which I did not ſee any great Quantity. In another Court there were a great many Cannon, both Iron and Braſs, a Room full of Bullets, a Magazine of Cordage, a Timber-Yard, and three great Rooms full of Arms for the Foot Soldiers. There was another that ſerv'd as an Arſenal for the Horſe, but 'twas lately burnt down by the Careleſſneſs of a Centinel. The Dock for building and refitting of Ships forms a ſeparate Court, in the midſt of which there's a great Baſon that communicates with the Sea, and is encompaſs'd with twenty ſix Sheds cover'd over, which contain as many Ships, Galleys, and Galleaſſes. The latter are Machines of a terrible Size, which have a ſort of Battery at both ends. My Guide aſſur'd me that a *Venetian* Galleaſs was not afraid of twenty five *Turkiſh* Galleys; This may be; but I

wou'd

wou'd venture a Wager on the ſide of the Infidels. In this ſame Dock are the Prowes of twelve *Turkiſh* Galleys taken at the famous Battle of *Lepanto*. But the moſt noble thing in all this Dock, is the *Bucentaur*, which went out of Port for the firſt time in the Year 1728. This ſuperb Veſſel was built by *Antonio Corradini*; and is ſo well deſign'd, and the Ornaments of Sculpture, of which there's a great number, ſo well plac'd, that every thing is eaſily diſtinguiſh'd, and ſtrikes with Amazement. 'Tis gilded down to the Water-edge, and 'tis ſaid that the Expence of it amounted to 70000 Sequins. The Deck is cover'd from Head to Stern with Crimſon-Velvet, bedaub'd with a broad Lace, and Gold Fringes. And the Inſide if poſſible is more magnificent than the Outſide. There's a great Room the length of the Ship, where the Doge ſits on a Throne, and the Ambaſſadors and Senators on Seats like thoſe of the Canons in the Choir. The Cieling conſiſts of Bas-reliefs in divers Compartments intirely gilt. The Floor is of Walnut-tree, incruſted with Ebony-Wood and Mother of Pearl. The Rowers who ſit in the Hold of the Ship are all of one Livery, and their Oars gilt, which makes a very fine Sight when all hands ſtrike together.

You know that the *Bucentaur* never goes out but once a-year, upon Aſcenſion-day, when the Captain who then commands muſt take an Oath before he ſtirs out of the Harbour, that he will bring her back again into the Arſenal. He carries nothing aboard of his own, for unleſs the Weather be very fair indeed, the Ceremony is put off to another day. They build a new *Bucentaur* every hundred Years, and the old ones are laid up till they rot.

I juſt now hear that the Poſt is going off, ſo that I am oblig'd to defer what I have farther to ſay of *Venice* till the next. I ſhall be infinitely pleas'd

if I can ſatisfy your Curioſity, and much more if I can prove to you that no body has a more profound Veneration for you than I, *Who am*, &c.

LETTER XXVI.

SIR, *Venice, May* 15, 1730.

THE Common-wealth keeps twelve Galleys in pay, and twenty Men of War. The *Capitana* Galley, call'd the *Fuſta*, never goes out of the Great Canal, but is continually at Anchor before the Square of St. *Mark*. There's commonly four Galleys and as many Men of War in the *Levant*. Others lie at Anchor in the Canal of *Zueca*, which were lately drawn out of the Arſenal, becauſe for want of Water the Ships receive Damage. The Power of the Republic conſiſts chiefly in its Maritime Force. It maintains very few Land Forces, and thoſe they have are all kept at *Corfou*, which is the Rampart of *Venice*, and the Defence of the Gulph; the Preſervation of which is owing to the Count *de Schulemburg*, General in chief of the Republic; for in the laſt War when the *Turks* attempted to take it, 'twas he that oblig'd them to raiſe the Siege: And the Republic in acknowledgment of this important Service caus'd his Statue on Horſeback to be erected in the Square of the Old Caſtle of *Corfou*; and ſettled a Penſion upon him of 5000 Crowns a-year for his Life, beſides his ordinary Salary.

'Tis certain that *Venice* has ſuffer'd a Decay both of Power and Commerce. The *Turks* have taken the

the *Morea* from her; ſhe has little or nothing left in the *Levant*; and as to her Places in the *Terra Firma* they are poor, depopulated, and meanly fortified. One of the main Securities of *Venice* is her Lakes; but for ſome Years paſt they begin to thicken ſo by the Mud and Dirt brought by the Rivers which fall into the Gulph, as in time muſt prove to the very great Detriment of *Venice*, becauſe Ships which us'd formerly to go in or out with eaſe, can only go out now by the help of a Canal which has been cut for the purpoſe. This Inconvenience might have formerly been prevented for a trifle of Expence, whereas now 'tis paſt all remedy.

The Powers of which the *Venetians* ought to be moſt jealous, are the *Turks* and the Emperor, in whoſe Dominions they are in a manner inclos'd. The Great Duke of *Tuſcany* and the Duke of *Parma* were formerly Powers which were of little or no Terror to the Republic; but if thoſe Dominions ſhou'd ever come under the Sovereignty of *Don Carlos*, the political Syſtem of *Italy* will be very much alter'd, and the *Venetians* will in all probability be oblig'd to keep fair with him. The Republic has for a long time obſerv'd an exact Neutrality in the Quarrels among the Princes of Chriſtendom, perhaps becauſe it knows not for which ſide to determine itſelf; for tho' the Senate hates the *Spaniards*, and cannot forget the famous Conſpiracy of the Marquiſs *de Bedmar* the Catholic King's Ambaſſador; they don't much like either the *Germans* or *French*, whoſe Power gives them Umbrage. And I believe, were it poſſible for the *Venetians* to hurt thoſe three Powers at the ſame time, we ſhou'd quickly ſee their Republic rouze itſelf from that Lethargy in which its profound State-Policy has doz'd it.

Since the *Engliſh* and *Dutch* became Maſters of the Commerce of *Europe*, the Trade of *Venice* is as much de-

decay'd as its Power; and their Manufactures are ſunk extremely. The *Venetians* heretofore furniſh'd almoſt all *Europe* with Cloth; their Looking-Glaſſes, and thoſe for Drinking, were alſo in great vogue, but thoſe Manufactures are ſince tranſplanted into other Countries, ſo that *Venice* ſcarce furniſhes any more than *Italy*. 'Tis worth while however to go and ſee the Glaſs-Houſe where they work Night and Day, except in *Auguſt* and *September*, when the Heats are too violent. 'Tis certain the Drinking-Glaſſes made here are much ſtronger than any other, but as they are blown they are not near ſo ſubſtantial as the Glaſs that is run; however they require leſs Labour, and have the Advantage when they are broke of being melted again; the Matter of which they are compoſed being much more flexible than that of the run Glaſs.

The Nobles of *Venice* are Slaves to Policy, Diffidence, and Suſpicion; and Ambaſſadors are much more ſo whom every one ſhuns as ſuſpected Perſons, and whom a Foreigner can ſcarce talk to without renouncing his Correſpondence with the Nobles. An Ambaſſador is oblig'd to confine himſelf to his own Family, or elſe to amuſe himſelf in the Company of Foreigners, of whom there is always a good number in this City; for no Nobleman dare viſit him without the expreſs leave of the Senate, who now indeed grant it much more freely than they did formerly.

Cuſtoms are alter'd here in very many things. 'Twas formerly a Crime to ſee a Woman in private, and a Foreigner did not dare to run the Venture; but now the caſe is quite different, for there are ſeveral Houſes of Quality where I am indulg'd, and am often *tête a tête* with the Miſtreſs of the Houſe, without any more notice taken of me than if I were in *France*, where Eaſe and Freedom are

ſo

ſo much boaſted. The Ladies are great Viſiters, and have Aſſemblies every Night, to which they repair alone in their Gondola's without any other Attendance but a Valet de Chambre who ſerves as their Gentleman-Uſher. They are maſk'd at all public Performances, and go where they have a mind to it. This eaſy Acceſs to the Ladies contributes not a little to make my Stay in this City agreeable. I own to you that I am infinitely charm'd with it; there are a thouſand Things here that pleaſe me, and were I to chuſe any City in *Italy* to live in, 'twould certainly be this, where People enjoy entire Liberty, provided they don't meddle with the State and its Government, which after all too, I don't think a Foreigner has much to do with. Here one is in the Centre of civil Pleaſures and Debauchery. God is as exemplarily ſerv'd here as in any Place whatſoever. Few Nations obſerve the Externals of Religion better than the *Italians* in general and the *Venetians* in particular, of whom it may be ſaid that they ſpend one half of their time in committing Sin, and the other half in begging God's Pardon.

Maſquerades are more in Faſhion here than elſewhere. People go in Maſks to take the Air, as well as to Plays and Balls; and 'tis the favourite Pleaſure both of the Grandees and the Commonalty. This gives riſe to many Adventures, and ſometimes one makes Acquaintance under a Maſk which would be impracticable perhaps, were not ſuch Diſguiſes in Faſhion. I remember that the firſt time I was here I ſtruck up an Acquaintance in the Square of St. *Mark* with two of the firſt-rate Ladies of this Country. They were maſk'd, and I was in a Scarlet Domino embroider'd with Silver, which being a Habit that had been ſeldom ſeen here, drew the Eyes of all the Company in the Square upon me, and in particular of two Ladies, one of whom twitching

me

me by the Sleeve, ſaid to me, 'Sir, I and the Lady 'here, my Friend, fancy by your Air which out-'ſtrips our Gentlemen, that you are a Foreigner, 'and we are inclin'd to think that you are no mean 'Perſon. We ſhould be glad of your Converſation, 'and you will do us a Pleaſure to take a turn with 'us round the Square.——You do me too much 'Honour, fair Lady (ſaid I, walking on) and what 'you tell me of my Appearance pleaſes me the more 'becauſe you are both the compleateſt Ladies in the 'Place. As you gueſs by my Habit that I am not 'a common Perſon, your Air perſuades me that I 'have the Honour to ſpeak to Ladies of Quality.— 'You are not miſtaken (ſaid the ſame Lady to me) 'this Lady my Companion is Madame *M* . . . and 'I am the Wife of Mr. *C* . . . You find (continu'd 'ſhe) that our Names are pretty well known in *Ve-'nice*. Now, after having told you who we are, 'may we preſume to aſk who you are?' I gratify'd their Curioſity by pulling off my Maſk, which I thought a Compliment due to their Quality. I had ſcarce told my Name, when the Lady who had not yet ſpoke one Word, ſaid to me, 'You are not ſo 'much a Stranger among us as you imagine; your 'Name is very well known to me, and the late 'Madame *Dubamel*, your Aunt, whoſe* Huſband 'was Commander in chief of our Forces, was one 'of my moſt intimate Friends, and ſhe often told 'me how much ſhe wiſh'd to ſee you here; but 'twas a Comfort ſhe did not live to enjoy. She 'went with her Huſband to *Corfou*, where he died 'not without Suſpicion of Poiſon; for he was ac-'cus'd of being too good a *Frenchman*; and your 'Aunt who was return'd from *Corfou* with a De-'ſign

* *Francis*, Count *Dubamel*, Lieutenant-General of the King of *Pruſſia*'s Army, Knight of the Order of the *Black Eagle*, and Colonel of a Regiment of Horſe. The *Venetians* invited him to their Service in 1704, and gave him the chief Command of their Forces.

'ſign to go and ſpend the Remainder of her Days 'at *Berlin*, died as ſhe was performing Quarentine 'in our Port. You caus'd her Body to be remov'd 'to *Berlin*, and you was one of her Heirs; and, 'tho' I don't mention it to make a Merit of it, I 'muſt tell you that you are oblig'd to me for it, 'ſince I pleaded for you againſt a very great num-'ber of M. *Duhamel*'s Relations. My Love to your 'Aunt put me upon engaging Mr. *M* . . . . to 'eſpouſe your Intereſt, which he promoted with 'Succeſs, and prevail'd on the Senate to prefer the 'Recommendations of the King of *Pruſſia* and the 'Elector of *Hanover* who both protected you, be-'fore the Inſtances made by the *French* Ambaſſador 'in the Name of the King his Maſter, in favour of 'Meſſieurs *Duhamel*. I was infinitely pleas'd (con-'tinu'd Madame *M* . . .) that I had an Oppor-'tunity of ſerving you, and you may depend 'upon it that Mr. *M* . . . and I ſhall ever inte-'reſt our ſelves heartily for all that belong to our de-'ceaſed Friend.' I made anſwer to Madame *M* . . . in Terms ſuitable to her obliging Expreſſions, and crav'd her Permiſſion to pay my reſpects to her at her Houſe. She anſwer'd me very civilly that ſhe would ſend her Huſband to me, and that then ſhe ſhould be glad to ſee me at her Houſe. Next Morning as I was ready to go out, and wait upon Mr. *M* . . . to whom I thought I ow'd a Viſit after the Civilities I had receiv'd from his Wife, I was told that he was at my Door and deſir'd to ſpeak with me. I went and receiv'd him, and found him every whit as polite as his Lady. He offer'd to ſhew me the Curioſities of *Venice* till his Wife was ſtirring. We went and ſaw ſeveral Churches, after which he conducted me to his Houſe where I found Madame *M* . . . who received me with all the Civility poſſible. She was a Woman who tho' forty Years of Age ſhew'd that ſhe had been

been a very beautiful Lady in her time. Madame *C* . . . happen'd to be in her Company, with whom ſhe had been the Day before in the Square of St. *Mark*. I never ſaw a more beautiful Lady, or that had a nobler Carriage. She was not yet twenty Years of Age but had been marry'd five Years to a Man, who tho' the moſt ill-favour'd of his Sex had a moſt amiable Behaviour. I fell in love with Madame *C* . . . as ſoon as ever I ſaw her, and when I beheld her Huſband, I had Preſumption enough to believe that my Application to the Lady would not be diſagreeable. But I ſoon perceiv'd that ſhe was not a Woman for my turn; ſhe quickly depriv'd me of all Hopes of Succeſs; and I no ſooner ſaw thoſe Hopes vaniſh'd, which are the only Support of Lovers, but I dropp'd my Amour. I had another in view which was attended with better Succeſs: M. *M* . . . carry'd me to a Country-Houſe of his towards *Padua*, and I don't know where I was ever more agreeably entertain'd in my whole Life. 'Tis at theſe Country Seats one ſees the *Venetians* in Perfection, who are quite another ſort of People here than in the City; for here they put off that grave ſerious Air which they affect in Town, and are quite ſociable, civil, courteous, and live with more ſplendor. As theſe Country-Houſes are near one another, the Gentlemen to whom they belong viſit each other very much, and are almoſt always together; but at *Venice* they live with more Reſtraint.

I am in ſome doubt whether I ſhould reckon the Muſic of the *Venetian* Churches in the number of its Pleaſures; but upon the whole, I think I ought, becauſe certainly their Churches are frequented more to pleaſe the Ear, than for real Devotion. The Church of *la Pieta* which belongs to the Nuns who know no other Father but Love, is moſt frequented. Theſe Nuns are enter'd very young, and are taught Muſic,

Muſic, and to play on all ſorts of Inſtruments, in which ſome of 'em are excellent Performers. *Apollonia* actually paſſes for the fineſt Singer, and *Anna-Maria*'s for the firſt Violin in *Italy*. The Concourſe of People to this Church on Sundays and Holidays is extraordinary. 'Tis the Rendezvous of all the Coquettes in *Venice*, and ſuch as are fond of Intrigues have here both their Hands and Hearts full. Not many Days after my Arrival in this City I was at this very Church, where was a vaſt Audience, and the fineſt of Muſic. As I was going out, a Woman who hid her Face accoſted me, ſaying, there was a Lady in a Gondola who deſir'd to ſpeak with me. Tho' this ſmelt ſtrong of an Adventure, which I was never very fond of, I however went along with the Woman; and really, not above ten Paces from the Spot I found a Gondola, in which was a Lady whom I knew to be the Daughter of the unfortunate Baron *de H* . . . of whoſe tragical Cataſtrophe you have heard. I own it mov'd my Compaſſion, as well as Sorrow, to ſee before my Eyes a young Lady of Rank in a ſtrange Country and in ſuch a Situation as made me ſurmiſe that ſhe was in a bad Way. But it even touch'd me to the quick, when after having made her Apology to me for having ſent for me, ſhe ſaid to me with a Voice interrupted with Sighs, 'For God's ſake tell me 'what's become of my poor Father; is he ſtill 'living? He has been the Cauſe of his own Un'happineſs and mine too; he has plung'd me into an 'Abyſs of Woe, but he is ſtill my Father: Nothing 'can make me forget the Duty I owe him; I 'ſhould be glad even to lay down my Life to re'lieve his Misfortunes.' I told her that I had not been at *Berlin* for a long time; that I had not kept up a Correſpondence there with any body, and that conſequently I could not tell her any News of her Father. I knew at the ſame time that he died in

Priſon

Priſon at *Spandaw*; but I was loth to be the Meſſenger of ſuch bad News to a Perſon who ſeem'd to be already too much afflicted. 'I did not know 'you were at *Venice* (reply'd Madamoiſelle *de H . . .*) 'or I ſhould have ſought an Opportunity to ſpeak 'with you. I ſaw you at the Church of *la Pieta*, 'and the ſight of you call'd my Misfortunes freſh 'to my Memory, as well as the ſad Cataſtrophe of 'your old Friend my Father. I could not refrain 'ſhedding Tears, and the Remembrance of my 'Diſgrace has eclips'd the Pleaſure I take in ſeeing 'you.' I endeavour'd to aſſuage her Grief, and to calm her ruffled Soul; and therefore I went with her to her Houſe, and when I ſaw her a little compos'd I aſk'd her queſtions about her ſtate of Life, and deſir'd her to tell me how ſhe had paſs'd her time ſince ſhe left *Berlin*. She anſwer'd me in every Point with a great deal of Honeſty and Simplicity. 'After the Execution of that Sentence (ſaid ſhe) 'which degraded my Father from Nobility and 'Honour, and ſet him on a level with the baſeſt 'Scoundrels, I had not the Courage to ſtay at *Ber-* 'lin. I went to *H . . .* to find out Madame *de* 'B . . . my Aunt from whom I hoped to meet 'with Protection; but I ſoon experienc'd that the 'Unfortunate have no Relations. My Aunt would 'not give me Houſe-room, and ſent a Confident of 'her's to tell me that ſhe adviſ'd me to be gone from 'H . . . or elſe to change my Name and not to call 'me her Couſin, unleſs I had a Deſire to be confin'd. 'But alas! I ſhould then have taken it as a Favour 'if my Aunt had ſhut me up; for I was in extreme 'Want, and knew not what would become of me. 'I lodg'd at an Inn where I got my Living by mak- 'ing of Linnen and Waſhing, when a good likely 'young Man came and took up his Quarters in the 'very ſame Houſe, who immediately ſtruck up an 'Acquaintance with me. I know not what he ſaw

'in me to charm him, for I did nothing but cry all 'the Day long. Mean time he talk'd to me of 'Love, and gave me ſo many Demonſtrations of 'his flaming Paſſion that I found he was really 'ſmitten with me. To tell you the whole Truth, I 'was not long inſenſible of the ſame Paſſion. He 'even offer'd to marry me, which, ſince he would 'not be deny'd, I conſented to. He told me that 'he was an Officer in the Emperor's Service, and 'a Native of *Lubeck*, and that he was come hither 'to take Poſſeſſion of an Eſtate fallen to him 'by Inheritance. I took what he ſaid to be true 'becauſe he was handſomely equipp'd, and had his 'Pockets well lin'd. In ſhort, I was ſmitten with 'him, and thought I ſhould be very happy in taking 'him for my Huſband. Not many Days after our 'Marriage, he told me that he muſt needs ſet out 'for *Hungary* where the Regiment was quarter'd, 'whereof he ſaid he was a Lieutenant, and that 'conſequently I muſt make ready to go with him.— 'We ſet out from *H*. . . and arriv'd happily at '*Vienna*. It was in that very City that my Huſ-'band, who till then behav'd well towards me, and 'whoſe Conduct had been very regular, chang'd 'all on a ſudden to the reverſe. He ſpent the 'whole Day in Gaming-Houſes, and the Night in 'Debauchery. Sometimes he never once came home 'for four or five Days together, and when he did, 'twas only to inſult me, and to upbraid me with 'the Misfortune of my Father, which I diſcover'd 'to him before Marriage, for fear he ſhould reproach 'me one time or other with having deceiv'd him. 'He told me that I was a Diſgrace to him, that 'his Colonel had broke him for marrying me, and 'that I was the Author of his Ruin. I try'd to 'pacify him, and ſpar'd no Pains nor Complaiſance 'for it, but all to no purpoſe. I heard that my 'Huſband was deſperately in love with a common

'Proſtitute, that he had ruin'd himſelf for her ſake; 'and in a little time he was oblig'd to ſell the very 'Clothes off of his back. He had contracted Debts, 'and expecting every day to be arreſted by his Credi- 'tors, he left *Vienna* privately, abandoning me to the 'moſt dreadful Deſpair. 'Twas eight Months be- 'fore I heard a Word of him. At laſt I came to 'know that he was here at *Venice*, and I reſolv'd to 'find him out. Madame the Counteſs of *W* . . . 'who had generouſly aſſiſted me, fitted me out for 'the Journey, but when I came hither I did not 'find my Huſband, who I heard was at *Padua*. I 'was making my ſelf ready to follow him thither, 'when I heard the News that he was kill'd by a 'Student with whom he had a Quarrel at Gaming. 'His Death fill'd up the Meaſure of my Sorrow. 'I found my ſelf quite a Stranger here without 'Friends or Subſiſtence. I endeavour'd, but in 'vain, to get my Living by my Labour, as I had 'done at *H* . . . but I found ſo little to do that twas 'impoſſible for me to hold out long; and I muſt un- 'doubtedly have ſunk under my Miſery if it had 'not been for the noble *D* . . . who out of Pity 'to my Condition reliev'd me ſix Years ago by 'granting me a Penſion: But how happy ſhould I 'be if I could live without it, and retire for ever to 'ſome religious Foundation!' Here the unfortu- nate *H* . . . concluded her Narrative. I ſifted her Sentiments about Religion: I knew ſhe had been educated in the *Lutheran*, but ſhe expreſs'd her Inclination to embrace the Catholic Religion, and alſo to turn Nun. I promis'd to ſerve her all that lay in my Power, and that ſame Evening I ſpoke to Madame *M* . . . who promis'd me to enter her into Orders as ſoon as ſhe was turn'd Ca- tholic. A Jeſuit who has had the tutoring of her for near a Month gives us Hopes that ſhe will in- ſtantly be qualify'd to take the Veil. She ſeems to

me

me to be very eager for it. A few days ago I acquainted her with her Father's Death, with which ſhe ſeem'd very much affected, but at the ſame time ſhe expreſs'd her Submiſſion to the Decrees of Providence, and told me her Misfortunes with ſo much Reſignation that I have Reaſon to think ſhe will be very happy in the Retirement which ſhe is about to embrace. If this be the Caſe, I ſhall think my ſelf very fortunate in having contributed by my Advice to her Tranquillity. Heaven grant her Prayers may prevail that I my ſelf may put thoſe Leſſons in practice which I have taught her, as to the Neceſſity of Converſion.

Pardon me, Sir, this long Digreſſion. As you knew the unfortunate *H* . . . in his Proſperity, and as you are alſo inform'd of his Diſgrace, I thought you would not be ſorry to hear of the Fate of his Daughter. I now reſume my Remarks on *Venice*.

Two Days ago I went to ſee the *Scuola St. Rocco*, which are Rooms where the Fraternities of that Saint meet, in which are Pictures done by the greateſt Maſters, particularly one in the great Room below, which is the Picture of the *Annunciation* done by *Tintoret*, a Piece highly eſteem'd. This Picture is, without Contradiction, one of the fineſt and moſt affecting Paintings at *Venice*, becauſe of the lively Expreſſions of Surpriſe, Admiration, and Joy which appear in the *Virgin's* Face. She is ſitting in her Chamber, which the ſkilful Painter has repreſented as a plain mean Room in ſome Diſorder with old and worn out Furniture. Upon the grand Stair-caſe there's another Picture repreſenting the *Annunciation* in like manner, which is done by *Titian*, and is not one of the worſt of his Performances. The upper Rooms are adorn'd with ſeveral Pictures done by *Tintoret*, in which he has deſcribed our Lord's Paſſion. Our Saviour appearing before *Pilate* is an admirable Piece; 'tis really moving to ſee the Modeſty and Serenity

of his Countenance. A ſecond Picture repreſents our Lord carrying his Croſs. In a third, we ſee him faſten'd on it, and expiring for the Salvation of Mankind. Theſe are invaluable Pieces, and are reckon'd the compleateſt that ever *Tintoret* painted.

I have alſo been to ſee the chief Palaces, which lie for the moſt part on the great Canal, and that call'd *Reggio*. They are very magnificent, but they are generally ſo like one another that he who has ſeen one may ſay he has ſeen them all. They have little Court-Yards, leſs Gardens, and no Stables. Nothing goes to form a Palace at *Venice* but the main Body of the Building, a great Salon in the middle, and Apartments on the Right and Left; and ſetting aſide the Marble, there are Palaces as magnificent elſewhere which have only the name of a Houſe.

The Square of St. *Mark* is the ordinary Rendezvous of all the Gentry at *Venice*. There are Nobles who keep their conſtant Circuits here as it were, and who never ſtir from the Place but to Bed, for they paſs their whole Time in Gaming at the Coffee-Houſes, or in the Peruke-Makers Shops. The number of their Nobles is not limited; and any body for paying down 100000 Ducats may purchaſe Nobility. Theſe Gentlemen compliment each other with the Title of *Excellency*, and 'tis what they all challenge from Foreigners. Mean time, ſome of thoſe *Excellencies* go to the Shambles, and to the Fiſh-Market, and carry home their Meat or their Fiſh under their Robes, and ſome are ſo very poor that they go a begging. This Title is ſo very common here that I had much ado to hinder a Lackey whom I hired from giving it to me. Tho' I told him that I was by no means *Excellent*, he made me anſwer that he knew full well what Obligations were due to my Excellency, and that he would not be thought to be wanting in Reſpect to my Excellency. A

Frenchman lately come from *Conſtantinople* to whom I made my Complaints, how much this Title was prophan'd, aſſur'd me that the *Venetians* were ſtill more laviſh of it out of *Venice*, ſo that he heard the very Grooms belonging to the Baillo of the Republic at *Conſtantinople*, compliment one another with the Title of *Excellency*.

Among the *Venetian* Excellencies there are alſo *Petits-Maitres* who are known by their Doublets lin'd with Scarlet, their fine white Perukes, by their fantaſtical Step, and that Air of lolling which they give themſelves in their Gondola's, which are much ſmaller and nimbler than the common ſort. Theſe *Petits-Maitres* are great Beaus, and have commonly more than one Miſtreſs at a time, and indeed there are few Nobles but have one at leaſt. Theſe Creatures, excepting the little Liberty they enjoy, are as happy as Sultana's. Their Lovers treat them like Princeſſes, and the *Venetians* in general pay great reſpect to the whole Sex. I have ſeen *Fauſtina* the famous Singer, and *Stringuetta* the noted Courtezan come maſk'd upon the Square of St. *Mark*, leaning on the Shoulders of Noblemen, and every Man paying them as much Obeiſance as if they had been Ladies of great Importance. The ſame day that they appear'd on the Square there happen'd to be a Skirmiſh between two Women maſk'd that were Rivals, who, as ſoon as they knew one another, fell out, went to Cuffs, tore off each other's Maſks, and at laſt Knives were drawn, with which they cut one another ſo deeply that one of 'em was left dead on the Spot.

I now think it high time to finiſh my Letter which is already very long, and perhaps too full of Trifles. I have told you every Thing that came uppermoſt in my Mind, ſo that you have a perfect

Farrago, which however is a Proof of the Pleaſure I take in correſponding with you.

LETTER XXVII.

SIR, *Ronciglione, May* 30. 1730.

AS it appears by all the Letters from *Rome* that they are on the point of chuſing a new Pope, I ſet out ſooner from *Venice* than I ſhould otherways have done, and came poſt to this City without ſtopping much by the Way. I paſs'd thro' PADUA, where I had the Honour to pay my Reſpects to the Prince *Emanuel* of *Portugal*, who is come to reſide there for ſome time, and I was afterwards at the Comedy, which was indeed, a moſt wretched Performance, but the Aſſembly was gay and numerous: Among the reſt there were a great number of Students and young Fellows, particularly one that made a very finical Appearance, who had ten or twelve Patches on his Face, a red Coat embroider'd with black Gawſe, a Hat, a Shoulder-Knot, Stockings, *&c.* the whole trimm'd with Gawſe. I took him at firſt for a Mountebank, but I plainly ſaw that the Whimſicalneſs of his Dreſs was the Humour of the Country. What gave me ſome Amuſement was, to ſee a Hare which Harlequin had taught to play Tricks, to tumble Top over Tail, to leap over a Stick, and to beat a Drum with his two Fore-feet.

From

From *Padua* I went to FERRARA a City in the Eccleſiaſtical State, where the Pope keeps a Legat who is always a Cardinal. It appear'd to me to be a large City with ſpacious Streets, and ſome fine Palaces, but it did not ſeem to be very populous, which is aſcribed to the bad Air in this Country, otherwiſe one of the fineſt in all *Italy*.

The Road from *Ferrara* to BOLOGNA is extremely level, and as good and agreeable in Summer as 'tis unpaſſable in Winter. *Bologna* is the ſecond City in the Eccleſiaſtical State, and is a large fine Town. 'Tis in a moſt charming Situation, all the Country round it being properly a Garden, and one of the moſt fruitful and faireſt Plats in Nature. 'Tis ſaid this City contains near 80000 Inhabitants. The common People are civil and well bred, and none more polite to Foreigners than the Noblemen. There are ſtately Palaces here, of which I will only mention that of the Marquis *Rinucci*, becauſe to me it ſeem'd to be one of the moſt conſiderable in the City. 'Tis very magnificent, and of a vaſt Extent. The Ground-Floor contains three large Apartments, the firſt Story five, and the ſecond as many. The Stair-caſe of this Palace is very much eſteem'd for its Contrivance. In one of the Halls are two large Pictures: The firſt is the Conſecration of the Emperor *Charles* V. perform'd by the Pope at *Bologna*: The ſecond repreſents *Frederic* IV. King of *Denmark* giving Audience to the Senate of *Bologna*, and their complimenting him on his Arrival. In another of thoſe Halls are two other curious large Pictures; the one of Cardinal *Rinucci*, having Audience of the King of *Poland* when he was ſent to him as Nuncio; and the ſecond ſhews the ſame Cardinal receiving the Cap from *Lewis* XIV. King of *France*, at whoſe Court he was Nuncio when he was promoted to the Purple. The Apartments adjoining to theſe Halls are alſo

adorn'd with excellent Paintings and very richly furniſh'd.

The Churches of *Bologna* are not leſs magnificent than the fineſt Churches in *Italy*. I thought that of St. *Paul* the moſt worthy of Remark, which is ſerv'd by *Bernardine* Fryars. The Roof is adorn'd with Paintings repreſenting the Hiſtory of St. *Paul*. Theſe Pictures which are highly eſteem'd are the Performances of *Antonio Caccioli* and *Rolli* two Natives of *Bologna*, and they have both outdone themſelves. The Painting of the Dome where St. *Paul* is repreſented on his Knees ready to have his Head ſtruck off is admirably fine. The high Altar is of Marble of various Colours, finiſh'd with a great deal of Art. The Seats of the Monks are of Wallnut-Tree, and over them are ſeveral Pictures of the Life of St. *Paul* drawn by an able Hand, who was *Carache*'s Pupil. The Churches of St. *Catherine* of *Bologna*, and St. *Michael* in *Boſco* are well worth the Traveller's Obſervation, on account of the choice Pictures with which they are adorn'd. St. *Michael's* in *Boſco* ſtands upon an Eminence three Miles from *Bologna*, to which there's an Entrance thro' a cover'd Gallery made like a Piazza. 'Twas a Work erected by the Citizens of *Bologna*, out of their Devotion to a miraculous Image of the *Holy Virgin* which is reverenc'd in this Church.

The Legate's Palace is very ancient, but grand and magnificent. 'Tis as ſtrictly guarded during the Vacancy of the Holy See as if the Enemy were at the Gates of the City. All the Avenues to it are hung with Chains; The *Swiſs* Guards are arm'd with Cuiraſſes: The Guard which conſiſts of fifty Soldiers is barricaded with Palliſades and Chevaux de Friſe, and the Palace-Gate is defended by eight Pieces of Cannon.

What

What remains for me to tell you of *Bologna* is, that 'tis one of the Cities in *Italy* where a Foreigner finds moſt Amuſement. The Nobility not only ſtrive to give him Pleaſure, but he has fine Paintings to feaſt his Eye, and here are often excellent Concerts of Muſic, Operas, and Comedies, charming Walks, and genteel Country-Houſes; which I take to be all that can be deſir'd in Life.

From *Bologna* I travell'd in two days to *Florence*, after having been dragg'd in my Chaiſe thro' the *Apennines*, a prodigious Range of Mountains; which is a thing I ſhall never do again while I live; for I really ſuffer'd very much in this Road, and if ever you ſhould have a fancy to come this way, I would adviſe you to carry Proviſions or a Cook with you, for there is not one conſiderable Place in all the Road. *Fiorenzola*, which is almoſt half way, is a ſorry little Town. From thence to *Scarperia* the Road is extremely rugged. One deſcends a high Mountain pav'd like a Stair-caſe, which to attempt in a Chaiſe, you are ſure of being, if I may ſo call it, broke upon the Wheel, and therefore I choſe to walk down. At *Scarperia* the Road becomes more paſſable, and it mends as you come near *Florence*. In our Way we paſs'd thro' a Town call'd *Ponte* that ſtands at the Foot of a Hill, where the Great Duke has a Caſtle which appear'd to me to be very well fortify'd.

One perceives FLORENCE a great way off, and indeed it makes a fine point of View to ſee ſo great a City in a beautiful Valley between Hills which riſe inſenſibly, and end at length in high Mountains, inhabited in ſuch a manner that they may be reckon'd the Suburbs of *Florence*. The River *Arno* paſſes thro' both the City and the Valley. Among all the Cities of *Italy*, *Florence* may juſtly be ſurnamed the *Fair*, ſince it has all that can be deſir'd in a great and wealthy Town, ſuch as ſacred and profane Edi-

fices,

fices, Bridges, Monuments, and Fountains; yet 'tis not ſo large nor populous as *Bologna*. As I enter'd *Florence* I perceived over the Gate a Table of white Marble with a *Latin* Inſcription on it, as follows:

FLORENTIA, ADVENTU FRIDERICI IV. DANIÆ ET NORVEGIÆ, AUGUSTI, FELICIS, QUOD EAM SUA PRÆSENTIA MAGNUS HOSPES IMPLEVERIT, AUGUSTA FELIX, AN. S. 1708. MENSE MARTIO.

'Twas the late Great Duke *Coſmo* who caus'd this to be engrav'd to the Honour of the King of *Denmark*.

The City of *Florence* has been ſo well deſcrib'd that I ſhall paſs very briefly over all that relates to the Buildings. The Square call'd *Piazza del Gran Duca* or the old Palace, contains Ornaments enough to embelliſh a great Town. Here you ſee a ſpacious Fountain which *Coſmo* I. caus'd to be built after the Deſigns of *Amminati* and *Philip Baldinucci*, two of the moſt famous Sculptors at that Time. Not far from this Fountain is the Equeſtrian Statue of *Coſmo* I. which is rais'd upon a great Pedeſtal of white Marble, with this Inſcription engrav'd on the chief Front of it:

COSMO MEDICI, MAGNO ETRURIÆ DUCI PRIMO, PIO, FELICI, INVICTO, JUSTO, CLEMENTI, SACRÆ MILITIÆ PACISQUE IN ETRURIA AUTHORI, PATRI ET PRINCIPI OPTIMO, FERDINANDUS F. MAG. DUX III. EREXIT, AN. CIↃ IↃ LXXXXIIII.

On the other three Sides of the Pedeſtal are very fine Bas-Reliefs of Braſs. The firſt repreſents *Coſmo* I. recogniz'd for Sovereign by the Senate of *Florence*;

Florence; the ſecond the Ceremony of *Coſmo*'s Coronation, and the third the ſame *Coſmo* in an antique triumphant Car making his pompous Entry into *Sienna*, which was ſubmitted to his Government. *Ferdinand* I. *de Medicis* when he erected this Statue to the Honour of his Father, employ'd in the Direction of it the famous *John Bologna*, who has very well anſwer'd the Opinion that had been conceiv'd of him.

In the Great Duke's Gallery near the Square, I ſaw the greateſt Curioſities, both among the Antients and Moderns. A Buſto of *Alexander* the Great, the famous Statue of *Venus*, cut by *Apollodorus*, with thoſe of the Emperors and Empreſſes of *Rome*, and the greateſt Perſonages of former Centuries; the beſt Originals of the greateſt Painters; and a thouſand uncommon things, ſuch as Diamonds, Rubies, Pearls, Emeralds, Saphirs, Topazes, Amber, Porcellain, Cryſtal, Porphyry, Coral, Marble, and Granite, the Particulars of which wou'd form a Volume. They are actually engraving on Plates, and ſeveral Perſons of Quality are contributing to the Expence of this fine Work, which is conſiderable, and for which excellent Deſigners are employ'd. This wou'd have been worthy of the Great Duke, and it ſeems to me that this Prince when he ſees his Family extinct, and his Eſtate paſs into the hands of Foreigners, ought at leaſt to eternize the Glory of his Anceſtors by publiſhing an Inventory of the immenſe Wealth which they have acquir'd, and tranſmitted to their Poſterity.

Of all the Churches in *Italy* there are none more magnificent as to the outſide than the Dome of *Milan*, and the Cathedral of *Florence*, both which are entirely lin'd with Marble of various Colours. A Citizen of *Florence*, who pretended to know the Hiſtory of this City perfectly well, aſſur'd me that its Cathedral was built out of the Impoſt of five

five *Sous* which had been laid upon every Piece of Cloth that was then ſold at *Florence*; but I believe you may without Breach of Charity take this for a Story.

Over againſt the Cathedral is the magnificent Baptiſtery, to which there's an Entrance thro' three Gates of Braſs, ſo artfully wrought that *Michael Angelo* ſaid they were good enough to be the Gates of Paradiſe.

St. *Laurence's* Chapel, which is not yet finiſh'd, is the Admiration of all Connoiſſeurs, and is deſign'd to be the Place for the Burial of the Great Dukes, whoſe Remains are to be depoſited in a Mauſoleum of wonderful Workmanſhip, adorn'd with precious Stones. 'Tis 150 years ago that this Chapel has been building, and yet it wants two Thirds of being finiſh'd. If it were lawful to criticiſe the Conduct of Princes, I muſt ſay it again, that the Great Duke, who ſees that his Greatneſs and his Family muſt end with him, ought to put the laſt hand to this Monument of the Magnificence of the *Medicis:* For can he hope, that if he himſelf neglects to tranſmit the Luſtre of his Family to Poſterity, his Succeſſors will think to do it, who are nothing to him, or at leaſt but very little. But ſuch is the Humour of *John Gaſton* Great Duke of *Tuſcany*; he is ſo indifferent and unconcern'd about every thing, that he ſees Foreigners diſpoſe of his Dominions, and nominate his Succeſſor, and the Courtiers ready to abandon him and to worſhip the ſaid Succeſſor; and yet the Proſpect, how diſagreeable ſoever it may be, does not ſeem to give him any Uneaſineſs: And he ſaid ſome days ago, after he had ſign'd his Laſt Will and Teſtament, declaring *Don Carlos* Infante of *Spain* his Succeſſor, *that he had juſt got a Son and Heir by a Daſh of his Pen, which he had not been able to get in thirty four years Marriage.*

Thus,

Thus, Sir, I have given all you will have of me this time touching *Florence*, where I cou'd ſtay but a few days, and then made no Acquaintance, having only been taken up in ſeeing the Curioſities of this City. At my Return from *Rome* I propoſe to come hither again, and make ſome ſtay in order to get a little Knowledge of the Court; and then you ſhall be inform'd of every Remark that I make.

From *Florence* I went and din'd at *Caſtilloncello*, and lay at SIENNA a City in the Duchy of *Tuſcany*, to which *Coſmo* I. *de Medicis* made it ſubject, not without great Reſiſtance from the *Siennois*. The City, which is both an Archbiſhoprick and an Univerſity, is very pleaſantly ſituate, and enjoys a very good Air. 'Tis ſaid that *Italian* is ſpoke here with more Purity than in any other Town in *Italy*. It ſeem'd to me to want Inhabitants, for I went thro' ſeveral Streets and did not meet a Soul. 'Tis ſaid that a great many of the Nobility are ſettled in *Sienna*, and that Strangers are ſure to meet with a civil Reception here, but as I ſtaid no more than one day, I had only a curſory View of the Town. The Cathedral appear'd to me to be a great and noble Building lin'd with Marble. The Great Duke's Palace is ancient, but commodious. It has a Tower which is look'd upon as a ſingular piece of Architecture. The Great Princeſs * *Violante* of *Bavaria* is Governeſs of *Sienna*. She liv'd formerly in this City, and was mightily belov'd in it; but ſhe has reſided for ſome time at *Florence*. The Square which is before the Palace is oval, and hollow in the Middle, ſo that it may be laid under-water like the Square *Navona* at *Rome*.

From *Sienna* to *Viterbo* the Road is extremely bad, I paſſed the Mountain of *Radifocani*, ſituate in one of the vileſt Countries in all *Italy*. At the top of the Mountain there's a Caſtle, where a Gariſon

* This Princeſs dy'd in 1731, at *Florence*.

riſon of fifteen Men is kept, with a Commanding Officer, whom I found at the Houſe of Entertainment where I alighted. He had been a Lieutenant in *France* in the Royal *Italian* Regiment, and ſpoke very good *French*. He told me that the Inhabitants under his Government were as bad as the Country, of which ſome Moments after, I ſaw a Proof. A Mule-driver having a Quarrel with the Drawer, the latter ſtabb'd him with a Knife in the Rim of the Belly, with as much Sedateneſs as if he had been doing a good Action; and the Commandant never caus'd the Aſſaſſin to be apprehended; for which when I expreſs'd my Surprize to him, he ſaid he had nothing to do out of his Place; and that beſides he did not dare to cauſe the Aſſaſſin to be apprehended, becauſe he had three Brothers as wicked as himſelf, who wou'd not fail to take a Revenge if he was puniſh'd. And then, ſaid he, I ſhou'd have enough to do if I were to cauſe all to be apprehended who give Wounds with Knives.

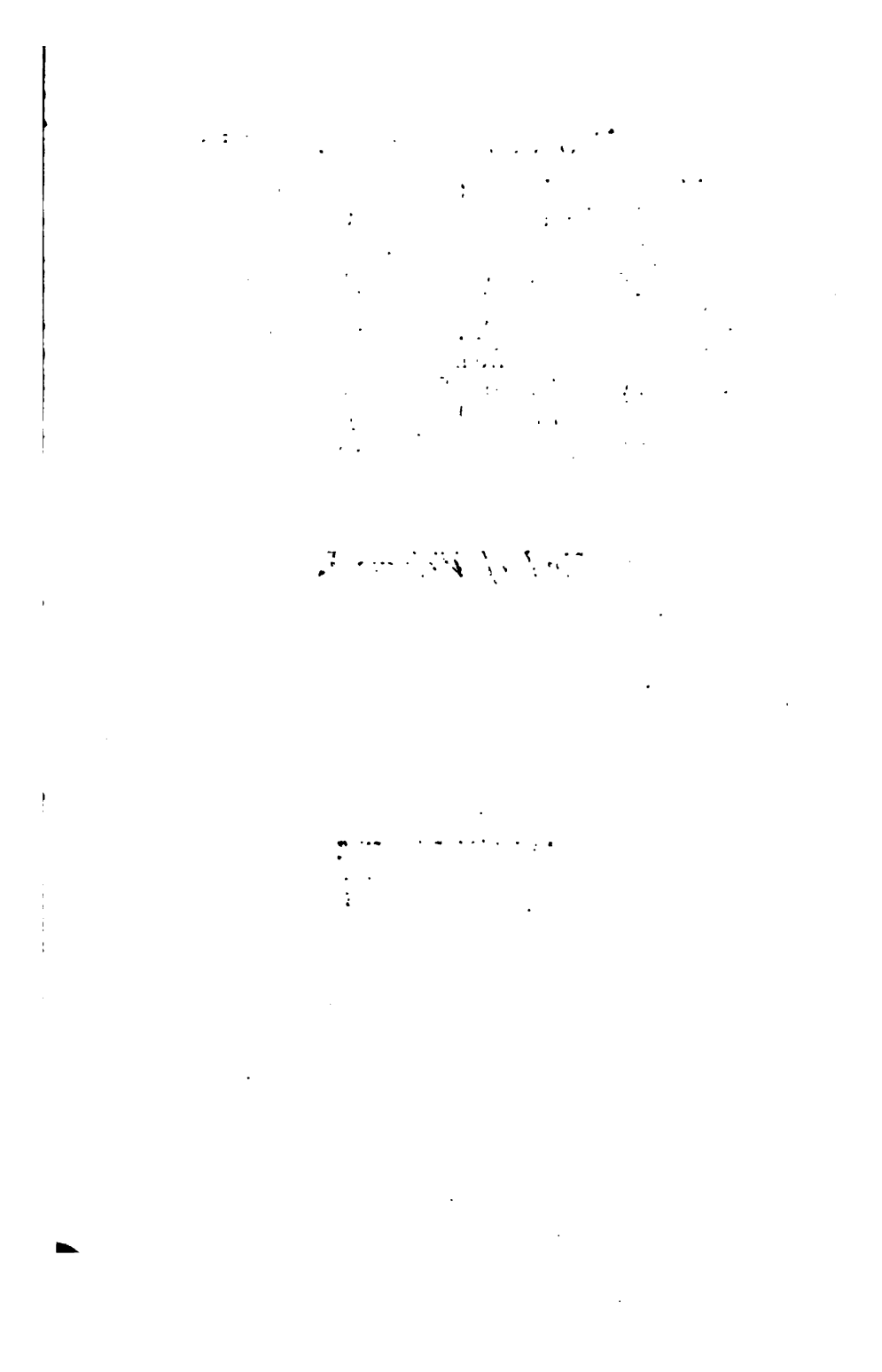
AQUAPENDENTE is a ſorry little Town, and yet a Metropolis. BOLSENA is no better, and MONTEFIASCONE tho' a Biſhoprick, wou'd not be worth mentioning, were it not for its Vineyards which produce excellent *Muſcadine* Wine.

VITERBO, three Leagues from *Monteſiaſcone*, ſeem'd to me to be a pretty Town. 'Tis adorn'd with three fine Fountains, and pav'd with great Flint Stones which are four foot long and two foot broad. This City has ſome fine Houſes in it. 'Tis the See of a Biſhop, and its Cathedral is a Structure which does not want for Grandeur. In this Church the Archbiſhop and Elector of *Cologn* was conſecrated by Pope *Benedict* XIII. who came hither on purpoſe to ſave the Elector all manner of diſpute about Precedency with the Cardinals; who were in their turn ſo diſgruntled with the Pope that none of them accompany'd him in this Journey.

MON-

MONTEROSO is a pretty Town, but RONCIGLIONE outdoes it; and indeed in all the Eccleſiaſtical State there is not a pleaſanter. It drives a great Trade in Snuff. I came hither yeſterday at Noon, and don't think of going away 'till this Evening, my Chaiſe being broke. I hope however to lie this Night at *Rome*, from whence I purpoſe to ſend you many good Stories forthwith. You will do me a Pleaſure to let me hear from you; and to believe me in *Italy*, as well as elſewhere, yours, *&c.*

End of Volume I.



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